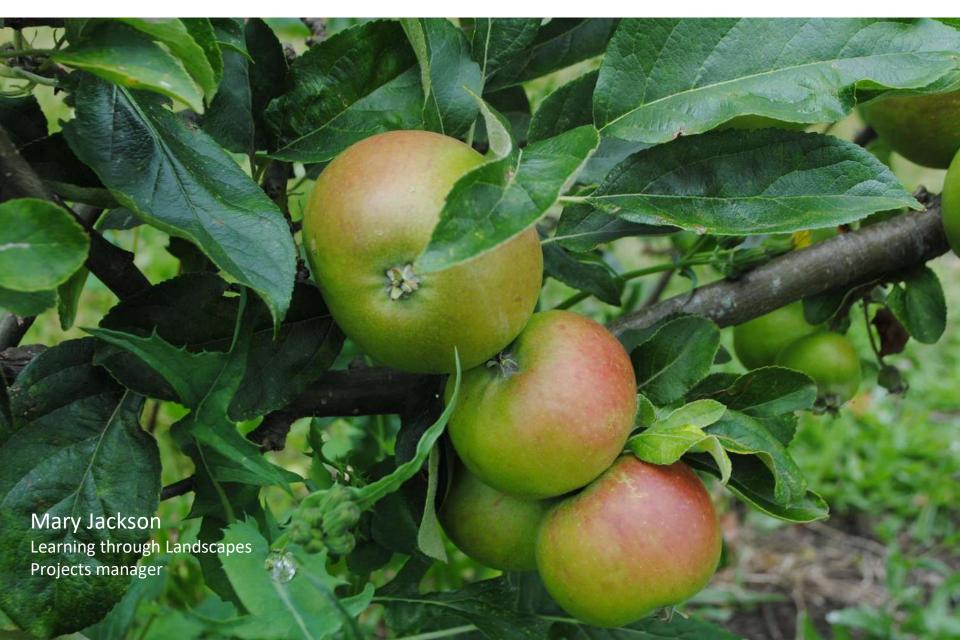
### **School Orchards**



#### Why orchards?

- What is an orchard?
- Reconnecting with the natural and wider world
- Promoting healthy eating
- Learning to cook healthy and traditional recipes
- Useful for lessons right across the curriculum
- Engaging with local people and local traditions
- Enhancing your school grounds
- Low maintenance
- Lasting legacy



# Planning your orchard

- Where to plant?
  - How much space?
  - Good drainage
  - Reasonable soils
  - Air drainage
  - Sunshine
  - Shelter
  - What other features do you want?



#### What space have you got?

- Where are we now?
- Where would we like to be?
- How can we get there?
- Making the changes
- Where are we now?

Let's go outside....



# Choosing species and varieties

- Apples
- Pears
- Plumbs
- Bush fruit
  - Blackcurrants
  - Gooseberries
- Nuts
  - Hazel
  - Walnut
- Exotics
  - Peaches
  - Passion fruit





# **Choosing varieties**





# Pollination groups



## The importance of root stock



#### What will your orchard look like?

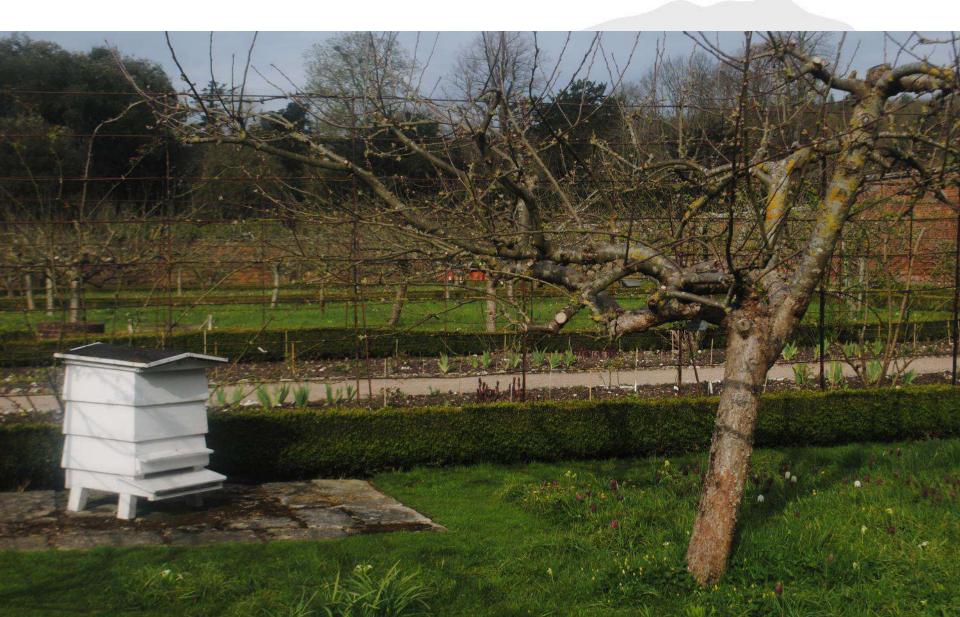
- How big will the trees grow?
- Who will look after them?
- Who will use the orchard area?
- What will they use it for?
  - Lessons
  - Relaxing
  - Socialising
  - Cooking and eating
- Events
  - Displaying art



**Meadow orchard** 



# Other features in your orchard



# Step over







# **Cordons**











### **Bush trees**





# **Growing in planters**



#### **Hazel bushes**



#### **Planting**

- Bare root November to March
- Container grown any time of year but needs extra care
- Plant so that the graft joint is above the level of the soil
- Back fill and firm up water well on planting
- Protecting your trees
- Weeding and watering









#### **Aftercare**

- Celebrate its opening! and first harvest.
- See if there are local people who can help
- Pruning annually or biannually, depending on format of trees
- Pests and diseases most can be dealt with organically
- Remove fruitlets in years one and two to support stronger growth
- Thin overcrowded clusters of fruit leaving one or two per cluster
- Check tree ties around supporting stakes
  - Allocate responsibility for maintenance and add to school calendar

#### Other activities



- Grafting traditional varieties and selling or donating them
- Tasting and cooking
- Celebrating Apple Day

(www.commonground.org.uk)

- Juicing
- Creating art

#### **Curriculum links**

- Poetry, song and stories
- Instructions
- Painting and sculpture
- Textiles and murals
- Longest length of peal
- Estimating and measuring
  - Selling your produce

- Designing seating
- Cooking
- Pollination
- Investigating browning of cut apples
- Investigating wildlife in your orchard
- Research apples in your local shops

# Experimentation



## **Mapping**

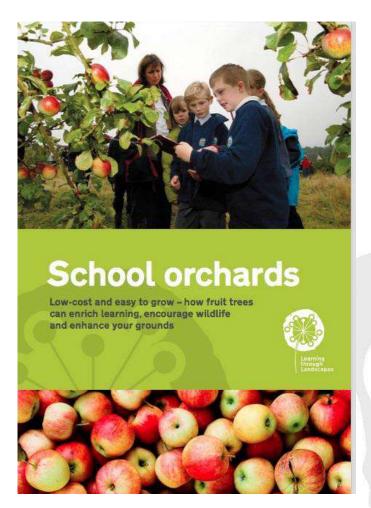




#### Art



#### Further help and advice



- www.ltl.org.uk go to resources and training - search for orchard
- www.fruitfullcommunities.org for advice on creating your orchard
- www.commonground.org.uk apple day
- www.orangepippin.com traditional apple names
- www.orchardnetwork.org.uk to find your local community orchard
- www.theorchardproject.org.uk national charity creating and caring for orchards

