
BLING YOUR BIKE

ACTIVITY GUIDE



This is a brilliant bike based activity, where pupils can use their arts and crafts skills to give their bikes a fancy dress make-over. Decorating the bikes can be done either at school or as an activity at home.

Activity process:

- Start by sending letters out to parents explaining what 'Bling your Bike' is and when it is taking place. We have produced a template letter. If you create your own letter make sure that you clearly state 'Bling your Bike' as this can sometimes be confused with 'Bring your Bike'.
- On the day of the event, identify and mark bikes with the pupil's name.
- There are various options for judging/deciding the winners. You can:
 - a. Decide who the winners are and read out their names in assembly.
 - b. Hold a parade in the school playground and have a hands-up vote. This works really well, especially if there are lots of bikes.
 - c. Simply stick 1st, 2nd and 3rd place on the best decorated bikes (you could use rosettes for this).
- Take photos to display on your noticeboard and newsletter. Share your 'Bling your Bike' event photos with Birmingham Cycle Revolution on social media. Don't forget to ask parent's permission to take photos of the children.

 [birminghamcyclerevolution](https://www.facebook.com/birminghamcyclerevolution)

 [@BCRbirmingham](https://twitter.com/BCRbirmingham)

Things to use to 'Bling your Bike':

- **Craft items** e.g. glitter, stickers, card etc to decorate the bike (make sure nothing gets in the way of any moving parts).
- **Plastic drinking straws** - split up the side and put on the spokes (this looks very effective with bright colours).
- **Stickers** - all sorts for putting on helmets and vinyl stickers for the bike frame.
- **Lengths of fabric** cut into long strips and weave in between spokes and around the frame.
- **Cardboard cut outs** - place one each side of the bike frame and attach with cable ties. Avoid moving parts and make sure the bike is still safe to ride.
- **Flags** - make lengths of bunting or get children to create individual flags. These can be fixed anywhere, but look great if put on a short length of bamboo and attached to the back of the bike to flutter in the wind as they cycle.

TOP TIP:

'Bling your Bike' also works well as an after school activity, or even at a school fete.