

***Fundraising Ideas for***

***“Rainbows 300”***

**RAINBOWS BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GB**

This collection of fundraising ideas is collated from a wide variety of sources, personal experiences and a number of websites. You’ll find some suitable for individuals, families, primary schools, secondary schools, parishes and community groups.

Feel free to add your own ideas and remember, if you’re organising a really big event like a Bring and Buy Sale, a Bake Off or a Carol Service then it’s often a good idea to raise money for two charities at the same time! We would love you to raise £100 for Rainbows Bereavement Support GB but we acknowledge that lots of other charities need funds too!

Whatever you decide, a £100 donation to Rainbows Bereavement Support GB will help us to continue our important work to grieving children and young people. Thank you so much. Enjoy your fundraising!

**A Aerobics-athon -** To stay fit and healthy, organise an aerobics-athon.

**Afternoon Tea** – host afternoon tea at school, at home or in a church hall. Perhaps have a cake stall too and a raffle. Have some leaflets about Rainbows too.

**Arts and Crafts Fair** - Put your creative talents into action and sell your works of art at a craft fair.

**An ‘At Home All Day’** – for people unable to get out much why not ask friends, neighbours and relations to come to you! Tea, coffee, biscuits and cake together with time to gossip. Just have a little donation box available and maybe a raffle

**Auction** - Organise your own fundraising auction. Have a look round and see what you could sell or auction off your talents for the day or donate a percentage of funds raised through an EBay auction/percentage of funds raised through an EBay auction?

**B**

**Bake off! -** Get your friends, colleagues, school, parish or group to bake cakes, pies and biscuits, and see who can produce the tastiest. Sell what's left after the judges have done their tasting.

**Bad Tie day -** Look in your dad’s wardrobe for those outdated ties and dazzle your friends. Pay to display the outrageous tie. Your friends could pay to have the offending tie removed.

**Battle of the bands -** Challenge those budding musicians to a battle of the bands and put on a concert to raise money.

**Beetle Drive** – maybe old fashioned but great family fun!

**Beat the goalie -** Challenge your friends to a beat the goalie competition. Pay to play.

**Buy a brick** – help ‘build’ our charity by buying a brick for £1. ‘Build’ a wall of coloured bricks next to your pledge to raise £100 Bricks can be named or coloured

**Bring and buy sale -** Sell donated goods on a stall. Cakes, books, home-made jam, bric-a-brac and Fairtrade goods are firm favourites.

**Bike ride** - Why not organise a sponsored bike ride and turn it into a event? Set up a sponsorship page on Just Giving,

**Bingo** - Organise a Charity Bingo event – devise your own calls for the numbers. Charge a fee per game.

**Bulb planting** – kill two birds with one stone! Create a huge area of spring bulbs in the school, parish or business garden in thanksgiving for Spring and new life or in memory of loved ones. Charge 50p a bulb and get a local garden centre to donate the bulbs! *(They might if you promise good publicity for them!)*

**C**

**Carol Service -** Have a carol singing fundraiser! Bring people together to raise their voices for Rainbows Bereavement Support GB whilst also raising funds to transform the lives of people overseas through CAFOD, Christian Aid or others.

**Charity Afternoon –** Invite parents in for the last hour or so to your school for tea, cake, Rainbow biscuits and a raffle. Maybe share the takings with rainbows and another important charity needing funds.

**Charity Breakfast -** Invite parents into your school on a morning for breakfast snacks, tea, coffee, Rainbow biscuits and a raffle. Maybe share the takings between Rainbows and another important charity needing funds.

**Charity Race night** – search google for local ‘charity race nights’ and you’ll find people able to run an evening for you; an evening of great fun too!

**Children’s Art Exhibition –** display all that lovely art work in the hall during an open evening or parents evening. Have lots of information about Rainbows there for people to take and sell the art!

**Christmas cards -** Design your own Christmas cards to sell to your friends and family or use a poster to send Christmas messages as an alternative to buying cards. **OR** contact our National Resource Centre in Liverpool and they’ll send you some of our beautiful Christmas cards for you to sell! A great way to raise funds in schools and large businesses

**Coffee mornings** – A great way to raise funds in a relaxed way; maybe plan a monthly coffee morning and have a cake sale and a raffle too!

**Colour theme days** - Bring a bit of colour into your day and raise money at the same time! Get your friends to dress in their favourite Rainbows colours for a donation.

**Company Donations -** contact local businesses, tell them what you’re doing and ask for raffle prizes or sponsorship or other thoughts, or just a letter from them saying ‘well done’

**Coppers and change** - Collect all those unwanted coppers that weigh down your pockets – small change can make a big difference.

**Cook up a storm** - If you’re a budding Master Chef, cook up some treats and sell them to friends and family, or put your own original recipes into a cookbook to sell. **Crazy Sock Day** – invite school staff and pupils, offices, businesses to have a special day with silly socks! Donate £1 or double up and donate £2 a pair! **Chocolate ban** - Give up chocolate for a day, a week or a month and give the cash you save to us.

**D**

**Dancing** - Put on those dancing shoes and disco the night away. Remember to charge an entry fee. Or go further and dance all day in a sponsored dance-athon.

**Dinner Party** – It might be a fish and chip supper or a ‘MasterChef’ style fine food experience but it’s worth considering – I think!

**Dress down day** – Have a non-uniform or a non-suit day. Charge £1

**Duck Race** – if you live near a ‘safe’ stream organise a duck race, £1 a duck. Make sure all health & safety issues have been risk assessed.

**Dog Show** – Organise a charity dog show! Advertise it well, £1 entry; just be barking mad and think about it! Have a friendly dog party?

**E**

**Enterprise Days** - Put on your Apprentice heads and come up with the marketing idea of the century! Create and sell the product you have designed. This is especially useful for Year Six pupils in primary schools or students studying Enterprise in secondary schools and colleges.

**Eating baked beans with a cocktail stick** - Challenge your friends to a baked bean eating competition – warm or cold beans but how many can you eat in a minute using only a cocktail stick?!

**F**

**Family Disco –** a great activity just before term ends. Sell lots of food too and have a raffle. Maybe split the proceeds between school funds and your pledge for Rainbows.

**Fancy dress** - Go crazy with the fashion ideas and create a zany masterpiece to wear for the day. Have prizes for the most outrageous and colourful costumes.

**Five a side football** - Challenge your mates or your teachers to a five a side tournament as part of a football fundraiser. Each team pays to play.

**Film night** - Create your own cinema and hold a film night for family and friends. Sell popcorn and drinks and charge an entry fee. Theme the night on your favourite type of film!

**Face painting competition** - Put your artistic talents to good use and paint people’s faces. You could have a themed face painting day such as of animals or characters from a book. Remember to charge for your works of face painting art.

**Fun run** – Organise a Rainbows Family Fun Run - just a short distance though and maybe charge £1 an adult and 50p a child?

**G**

**Games Night –** we had a great evening in our church hall recently. There was skittles, table tennis, scrabble, bettle drive, bingo, Lego, cards, and of course lots of snacks to buy!

**Guess who the baby is (from photos) –** Do a twist on the classic baby photo game by collecting some baby photos of famous celebrities and charging your friends to guess who they are.

**Give it up!** - Get sponsored to go without something. Give up speaking for a day, computer games for a week, chocolate for a month, etc. etc.

**Guess the number of** (balloons in a car, sweets in a jar etc. ) - Have a lot of fun challenging your friends to guess the quantity.

**Guess the weight of…** (Cake, teddy) - Quiz your friends on the weight of the cake – 50p a guess.

**Games:** scrabble, chess, trivial pursuits etc - For all those who love the challenge of a board game – why not have marathon board game tournaments? Either pay to play or get sponsored.

**H**

**Hula Hoop Contest** - How many times can you spin the hula hoop? Organise a hula hoop-athon. Don’t forget to get sponsored by the spin, or the length of time you keep the hoop going.

**Hair beading, braiding and plaiting** - Put your creative talents to good use. Make a little charge

**I**

**Irish Night/Day** –Have a great evening of Irish folk music, a little crack and lots of stew.

**International evening** - Hold a themed international night and decorate your hall with flags from across the globe. Serve different national dishes and entertain your guests with world music. Why not also hold a quiz and test your friends’ geographical knowledge? Charge an entry fee.

**J**

**Jumble sales** – Use a school or parish hall to hold a jumble sale.

**Jewellery** making/selling - Put your creative jewellery making skills to good use and hold a sale with what you make.

**Joke-athon** - Have your friends in stitches with a joke-athon. How long can you keep your friends laughing? If the jokes are really bad, make them pay a fee to leave?

**K**

**Karaoke** - Impress your friends with your singing ability – try out your favourite tunes. Its great fun and a great way for families to come together.

**Knitting** – how about a scarf making competition? Who can knit the longest? Or requesting folk on FaceBook to start a weekly Knit and natter group with the proceeds being shared between Rainbows and another well known charity of your choice.

**L**

**Line of coins – or a Rainbow of coins** – a great way to collect small change! Display a rainbow and fill it with coins with the help of some blutack. Or create a line around the school hall. How long can you make it in a week?

**Line dancing** - Friends and family can have hours of fun with a line dancing event. You could even organise a line dance-athon. Charge a fee to take part.

**Lunch** – Why not offer to hold a buffet one Friday in your school, office or hall. You and friends prepare the food and then friends and colleagues enjoy it and pay for it!

**M** –

**Matched Giving** – If your school is pledging to raise £100 then how about asking staff (or your employer) to match that amount.

**Music and mulled wine evening** – No matter which genre of music you decide this could be a wonderful experience, especially in December

**N**

**Nominate a teacher** – to have their legs, beard or head shaved. - Challenge a teacher / youth leader to have a shave or wax for Rainbows. Remember that they should get sponsored too, or charge people a fee to watch it happen.

**Nearly new sale** - Only worn something once or twice? Why not sell or swap your unwanted things with your friends? Pay £2 for each item you take.

**Name the teddy** - Does your mascot need a name? You could raffle the teddy at the end too.

**Netball tournament** - Challenge your friends, teachers or parish to a netball tournament. To add to the fun, why not play your matches in fancy dress too?

**O**

**Odd clothes day** - Turn your non-uniform day into an odd clothes day – mix up those socks and clash for cash.

**Odd job Day** - Charge a fee for all those odd jobs around the house that need doing.

**Open Gardens Day** – A wonderful way to raise funds in the right environment

**P**

**Pancake race or Pancake Eat and Enjoy –** a great way to enjoy Shrove Tuesday

**Penalty shoot-out** - Show off your skills in a sponsored shoot out as part of a football fundraiser.

**Photo competitions** - If you’re a budding photographer, hold a competition for interesting snaps. All entrants to pay a fee

**Pancake race** - Hold your own pancake race – challenge your friends and family.

**Pin the tail on the donkey** - Challenge your friends to a pin the tail on the donkey. Remember to blindfold them - and no cheating! Pay to play.

**Pantomime** - Putting on a pantomime? Why not take a collection for Rainbows as people leave?

**Plant sale** - For those with green fingers, sell your produce in a plant sale.

**Poetry reading** - Organise a poetry recital and invite your friends and family. Why not hold a themed poetry event, or use poems from your favourite poet or poems with the word rainbow in? Set yourself the challenge of reciting your poem from memory. £1 per line – the longer the poem the more you raise!

**PTA or Parents’ Association coffee morning** - to organise a coffee morning – and why not make it a Fairtrade event too? You could combine it with a ‘bring and buy’ sale and share the proceeds between two charities..

**Q**

**Quiet in the classroom** - sponsored silence - Make your teacher happy by remaining quiet for a few hours, or even a whole day. Remember to get sponsored too with JustGiving, Local Giving, Virgin Money.

**Quizzes** - Create your own quiz to test your friends’ knowledge. Hold a PTA or parish quiz night and raise money for us by charging per entrant.

**R**

**Rainbows Christmas Cards** – make your own or contact our National Resource Centre and ask them to send you some to sell: rainbowsgb.dc@btconnect.com

**Rainbows competition** – have a class or whole school art competition with the theme being Rainbows. Provide everyone with the same size canvas, card or paper. Display all the finished artworks like an art gallery and invite visitors, parents to buy them!

**Rainbow Colours Stall** – plan a stall with lots of colourful things to sell

**Raffles** - Get friends and family or local businesses to donate prizes and raffle them off to raise funds.

**Read-athon** - How many books can you read over a short period of time? Get sponsored per page or, for fast readers, per book. Set up a sponsorship page on JustGiving, Local Giving, Virgin Money or create your own sponsorship form with rainbows on.

**Rounder’s tournament** - Challenge your friends and teachers to a rounder’s match. Remember it is pay to play.

**S**

**Samba or Salsa Dancing** - Put on those dancing shoes and find a partner! Collect donations to take part.

**Soak the priest/teacher/youth leader/** - See if you can convince a priest, teacher or youth leaders to get in the stocks and get wet! Get people to pay per sponge.

**Standing Orders** – why not encourage some people who could afford it to set up a monthly or annual standing order with our charity? Details on our website

**Students vs. teachers tug of war** - A fun way to compete with staff at school – challenge them to a tug of war. Each team pays a fee.

**Stalls -** - Set up a variety of stalls, from plants or cakes to recycled goods, and create your own mini £1 bazaar.

**Sponsored ideas / events** – dye hair green / walk - Remember when organising a fundraising event to think about adding a sponsorship element – it’s a great way of collecting your money. Think of clever ideas that your friends and family can sponsor you for and don't forget your sponsorship page!

**Sponsored 24 hour fast** - How long do you usually go without eating? Why not give up something you really enjoy for 24 hours? Get sponsored too.

**Swim-athon** - Get sponsored per length… or per mile!

**T**

**Talent contest** - Hold a contest to showcase the talents of your friends and family! Organise a collection/raffle or charge at the door for entry.

**Tombola** - Get friends and family to donate gifts and organise a tombola. Only numbers ending in 0 or 5 will win a prize!

**Treasure Hunt** - Create a treasure hunt and challenge your friends to find what you have hidden. Pay to play.

**U**

**Uniform free day** - Not suggested if you’re a fireman, policeman or nurse but a great idea for schools.

**V**

**Vintage stall** – have a vintage sale along with your morning coffee or afternoon tea event. Lots of any old things, including clothes and call it a ‘Vintage Sale’, Charge lots of money!

**W**

**Walk** - Organise a sponsored walk or undertake a pilgrimage for Rainbows.

**Welly throwing competition** - See how far those wellies will go.

**Wine and cheese evening** – this might sound old fashioned now but it isn’t, especially if you add it to an event already taking place. Lots of different cheese and non-alcoholic wine too!

**Word search** - Create a themed word search and challenge your friends and family. Remember to charge a fee.

**X**

 **X-Factor Competition** - Celebrate all your talents by putting on a show – Britain’s definitely got talent. Organise your own talent show and invite friends and family too.

**Y**

**Yoga marathon –** Have a yoga evening in school or hall

**Yo-yo competition** - Have you got a talent for yo-yoing? Then put your skill to good use and get sponsored.

**Yodelling competition** - If yodelling is your thing, then either get friends to pay you not to do it, or get sponsored instead!

**World food day** - Get together with friends and prepare and sell different dishes from around the world.

**Z**

**Zoo quiz** - Create a zoological quiz and test your friends’ and family’s knowledge of the animal kingdom. Remember to charge a fee too.

**Zany clothes day** - Instead of a dress down day, dress up! Charge a fee and wear a zany costume that will brighten everyone’s day!

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[www.rainbowsgb.org](http://www.rainbowsgb.org) Charity number: 1058476