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24 days of digital distractions

Press Release

Electric December: Wylde Christmas
13 December 2005

From the rainforest to the desert, the arctic to the streets of Bristol, explore what's happening across the globe on December 13. Opening a digital window on the natural world, Hengrove Community Arts College present two short films, made using BBC archive footage from the Natural History Unit.

Produced by a group of high achieving year elevens working alongside year 7 pupils, the participants took inspiration for their piece from the "connecting" theme of **Electric December 2005**, bringing together adults, young people, the BBC and the local community in a unique learning experience.

Production sessions took place twice a week at Brislington City Learning Centre, and participants learnt new skills of film editing, using new software, scriptwriting and other technical aspects of filmmaking.

Mentored and guided by Paul Appleby, a producer from the BBC, the project was also supported by Andrea Rea, Project Officer at Hengrove Community Arts College and Noel Goodwin, a key worker from a national project called Positive Activities for Young People housed in the South West by Connexions West of England. Finally, nameless UK turned the project into a digital present for **Electric December**.

Electric December is Watershed's widely acclaimed online digital advent calendar, which offers a new and totally unique digital present every day from 1 Dec - counting you down to Christmas.

Notes:

- Find out more about **Electric December**, and download images and press releases at <http://www.electricdecember.org/05/press>
- Find out more about Connecting the UK: The Digital Strategy at www.dti.gov.uk/industries/telecoms/pdf/digital_strategy.pdf
- The Digital Challenge offers a £10m prize to develop a showcase zone for eGovernment and ICT innovation - find out more at www.egovmonitor.com/node/1716
- **Electric December** is a Watershed project supported by Learning & Skills Council West of England, The Campus Bristol, BBC West, Bristol Evening Post and Creative Bristol (an initiative of Bristol Cultural Development Partnership, Arts Council England South West, Bristol City Council and Business West).
- You can see the last six years of **Electric December** now at www.electricdecember.org
- For further press information contact Clare Reddington on 0117 927 6444 or clare.reddington@watershed.co.uk