

Our inspiring Education Department offers an Outreach service that delivers Out of Classroom Learning in your school grounds or local greenspace. Activities are all practical, hands on opportunities to discover more about **living things, life processes, habitats** and **ecology**.

Each programme is tailored to suit your class' requirements and age group, involving games to draw out concepts. The following are examples of popular activities available:

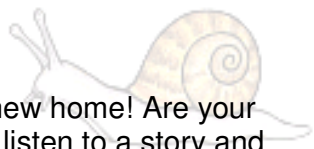


We're going on a Minibeast Hunt!

Look closely in the habitats in your area to find the invertebrates that live there, use simple keys to identify them and think about how they are adapted to survive in their environment. Older students might like to investigate how minibeasts fit into food chains. Video microscopes can be used to look at the creatures' in detail.

Hedgehog's Day Out

Hedgehog is looking for a new home! Are your grounds suitable? Children listen to a story and then investigate whether hedgehog can find his minibeast food, shelter and bedding for hibernation in your grounds.



Habitat Explorers

Take a bird's eye view of your school grounds – are they a suitable habitat for a blackbird? Using the blackbird as an example, investigate what animals need in their habitats, and whether your grounds have suitable food, shelter, water and friends for a blackbird to survive.

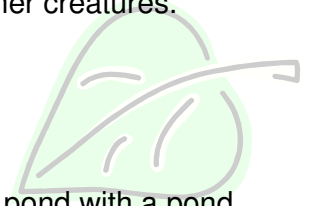


Biology Fieldwork

Use your local greenspace to investigate ecological concepts and develop skills including sampling techniques, identification and statistical analysis. Take the opportunity to get out of the lab and get in touch to plan your day with us.

Plants – Growing Green!

Discover what a plant needs to help it to grow, name parts of a plant and consider how they work together to help it survive. Investigate the plants in the area to consider their variety, beauty and importance to ourselves and other creatures.



Pond Investigations

Make more use of you school pond with a pond dipping session; think about the pond as a habitat, use nets to find the creatures that live in it, and use simple keys to identify the weird and wonderful underwater animals. Older students can investigate pond food chains.



Sensory Earthwalk

Use your senses to explore the great outdoors. Collect colours, listen to Nature's Orchestra, create smelly smoothies and collect different 'touches'. A magical experience at any time of year, but also appropriate for Autumn Walks or Signs of Spring; a great springboard for literacy or art activities.



Geography Fieldwork

There is no better way to learn geographical concepts and skills than fieldwork; we can deliver ecology investigations, stream studies, visitor impact and management in your local area. Local fieldwork visits have the benefits of relevance to the students own lives, and the opportunity for repeated data collection.

Environmental Art

Are your students budding Andy Goldsworthy artists? Use your senses to explore the colours, textures, and shapes of your local environment and produce your own ephemeral masterpiece!

School Grounds Development and Practical Conservation

Are you considering how your school might make more use of its grounds for learning? We can help by providing advice and support, and can also help with practical work on site, bringing tools and expertise.

Perhaps you would like to reinforce a science topic or achieve Eco Schools targets by doing some practical conservation work in your grounds or local nature reserve? If so we can help, leading a task with the students being Rangers for the session.

Forest Schools

Forest Schools are inspiring learning opportunities that help students to learn about nature while increasing their self esteem and confidence. Activities can include:



Environmental Games to find out more about the natural world
Building shelters
Using campfires to cook snacks
Making items from wood to take home
Making and following trails



Forest schools take place in a woodland environment, with regular visits to increase familiarity and confidence in the setting, as well as to reinforce skills and understanding. Child initiated play gives participants the opportunity to improve communication and social skills, alongside developing motor skills and imagination.

If you would like to book a forest schools course for your class, please do get in touch to discuss your requirements.

INSET

Would your staff like Continuing Professional Development from one of the county's leading providers of learning outside the classroom?

We can offer INSET courses in your school on a variety of topics, including 'An Introduction to Forest Schools' and 'Making Progress with Eco Schools', 'Using your grounds for Learning'. Our Education Officer is both a Level 3 Forest Schools Leader, and an Eco Schools Green Flag Assessor, so can provide expert advice on such topics.

INSET sessions could be designed to suit a Twilight session or full or half day programmes.

Further Information

Surrey Wildlife Trust is a conservation charity, and as a charity we need to charge to cover our costs. To find out current prices and to make any enquiries, please contact the Outreach Education Co-ordinator:

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