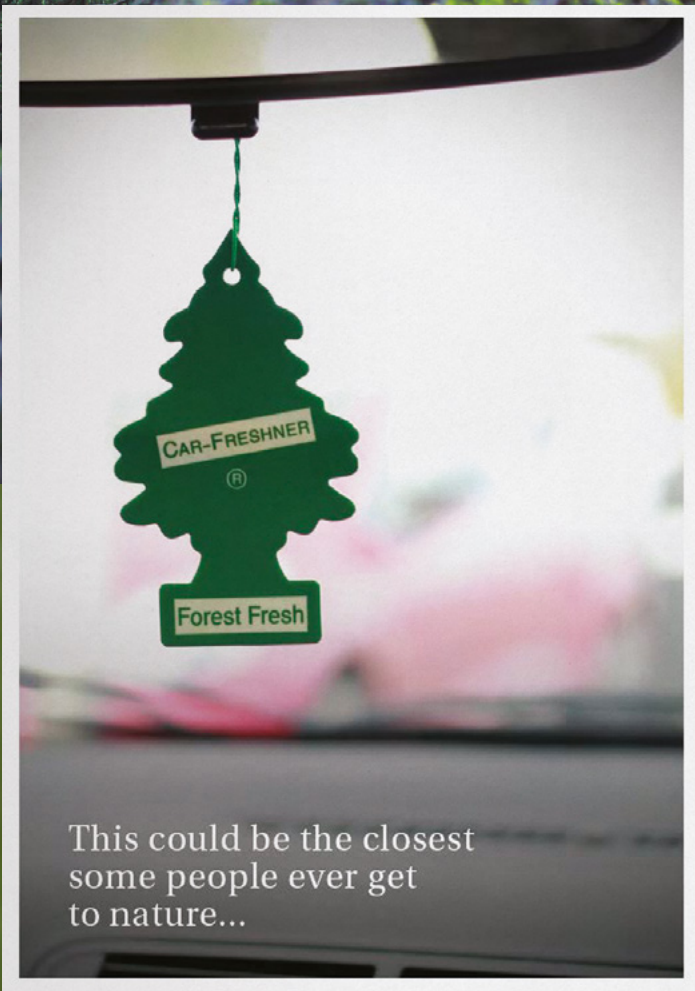


JOHN MUIR AWARD

wild places:
DISCOVER
EXPLORE
CONSERVE
SHARE

John Muir Award News Spring 2015

The John Muir Award is the main engagement initiative of the John Muir Trust. It encourages people to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places.



This could be the closest
some people ever get
to nature...

John Muir Award
Appeal *pages 2-3*

It's Our World *pages 6-7*

The Wildlife Trusts *pages 8-9*

John Muir Award Appeal

Since 1997, the John Muir Trust has run the John Muir Award to help thousands of people every year to connect with, enjoy, and care for our wild places. The aim is to help improve people's lives, as well as our environment.

Why is the John Muir Trust committed to this work?

It's simple, really. The more people connect with nature, the more they will be inspired to care for and protect our wild places. We're proud that the John Muir Award has always been free to use, allowing more people to have a positive connection with nature.

We want to be able to meet an increasing demand, from schools and families in particular, and help even more people get out into wild places whether on their own doorsteps, or in more remote and rugged mountains, coastlines and forests.

In 2014...



In 2015...

We're asking John Muir Trust members, John Muir Award Providers, friends and supporters to consider how they might contribute to our first ever John Muir Award Appeal.

Here's how you can help:

- Share our appeal film & information with your contacts
- Donate or fundraise for the Award appeal (donate £60 or more for one year's free John Muir Trust group membership)
- Share your Award stories & achievements on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, using **#johnmuiraward**

At www.johnmuirtrust.org/connect you'll find:

- our appeal film and leaflet
- frequently asked questions about the John Muir Award
- testimonials
- ideas to fundraise for the John Muir Award



John Muir Award Appeal

Why support our work?

“The John Muir Award is the most positive, sustainable award scheme that has been proven to make a beneficial impact on the lives of people and their experiences of wild places. It has provided thousands of young people and their families with opportunities to spend time in a nature and actively learn how to love and look after these precious spaces.”

Juliet Robertson, Director, Creative Star Learning Company



“The John Muir Award is something rare: a simple, effective, enjoyable and potentially powerful intervention to enhance health, wellbeing and the environment, that actually works.”

Prof. Rich Mitchell (Public Health), University of Glasgow

“It’s a wonderful opportunity to put something back into the environment.”

Angela Wimbush, Wakefield Junior School at FSC Blencathra



“I’m often told that it’s the younger generation that needs to be reconnected with Nature but I think they already are; they just don’t always realise it. The John Muir Award is an inspirational initiative. It unlocks the door. It lights the blue touch paper reigniting something that is deep within all of us.”

Peter Cairns, Nature & Conservation Photographer



“Whether we live in cities or remote islands, we all need nature in our lives to keep us happy and well-balanced and nature needs us to care for it. Nature and people are intertwined and schemes like the John Muir Award help people to connect with nature wherever they happen to be.”

Chris Townsend, Writer, Long Distance Walker

“It’s made me think differently. Being outdoors makes me feel better about myself.”

Josh, participant

Fantastic fundraising idea #1

Setting out on May 9th, Trust members David Lintern and David Hine will embrace a spirit of adventure to walk and paddle from coast to coast, climbing the UK’s nine highest mountains (that’s all the ones over 4,000ft) along the way – they’re calling it C2C4K.

Follow their highly visual blogs at www.davidlintern.com and www.gridnorth.blogspot.co.uk.

You can donate at www.givey.com/c2c4k



Fantastic fundraising idea #2

Giving to nature, and giving to the John Muir Award!

John Muir Award participants at an NHS service in Fife are fundraising through their newly discovered talents in woodwork. They are building bird and bat homes and selling them to nurses and other staff at the hospital – along with handy guides they’ve created on where to place the boxes and how to monitor them.

Making a Difference: Conserve Audit 2015

In 2011 many of the organisations who use the John Muir Award collected data on Conserve activities, contributing to our Conserve Audit. This had great value in demonstrating the impact that Award participation has on wild places – not just for the John Muir Trust but for partners, funders, and everyone involved.

We're taking a fresh look at this throughout 2015, and asking you to record what you do as part of the Award Conserve challenge. This information will be collected when you request Award Certificates.

To find out more visit www.jmt.org/jmaward-conserve-audit-2015.asp



John Muir Award Certificate updates

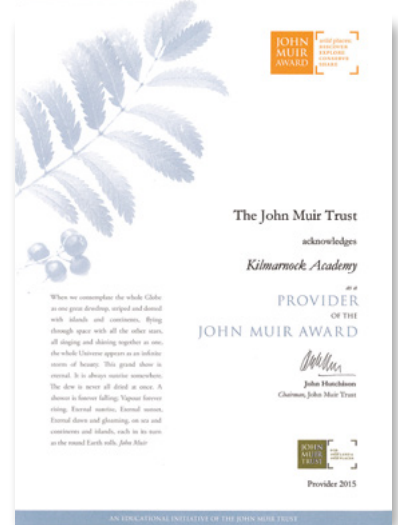
John Muir Award Providers – status and certificate

Many organisations that we work with appreciate the opportunity to recognise their status as a John Muir Award Provider. In response we are introducing a new Provider Certificate to acknowledge and celebrate this. Find out more at www.jmt.org/jmaward-providers.asp or talk to your Award Manager.

Requesting Award Certificates? New Certificate Request Form

Download the new Certificate Request Form at www.jmt.org/jmaward-forms.asp.

When next requesting your John Muir Award certificates, use this to also ask for your Provider Certificate.



John Muir Award Record Book pdf

Our Record Book is now available to download and print as a pdf from the Resources page of our website. Use it to record experiences during John Muir Award activity. Draw, sketch or paint. Write quotes, stories, songs, names of things, poetry, or make rough notes. Stick things in it. Use it as a personal memento of what has been done.



John Muir Trust AGM & Members' Gathering 2015

15 & 16 May, Galeri Caernarfon, Doc Victoria, Caernarfon

Come and join staff, trustees and members in beautiful North Wales for our 2015 AGM & Members' Gathering.

See www.johnmuirtrust.org for more details

Stronelairg update

The John Muir Trust's Judicial Review into the Stronelairg wind farm was held in February in the Court of Session in Edinburgh. The decision is not expected for a couple of months.

Thank you for your donations which are making the campaign possible. Up to date information is available via the John Muir Trust website.

Lake District partnership extended

We're delighted the Lake District National Park Authority has extended its partnership with the John Muir Trust for a further, fifth year. Our Cumbria Manager post will continue to be hosted and funded as a key part of the Park's Learning Service.

Last year saw every secondary school in the National Park (and many others) use the John Muir Award to appreciate and conserve the special qualities of the Lake District. "It just makes good sense. We feel that the John Muir Award is broad-based, provides good value and helps us target younger members of the community, including the disadvantaged," says Richard Leafe, Lake District National Park Chief Executive.

See more about the links between the John Muir Trust and National Parks – click on Films at www.johnmuiraward.org



Wellbeing and Wild Places

We've been conducting a Provider Survey based around key elements of the Scottish Government indicators of wellbeing. We asked if the John Muir Award helps people be Healthy, Achieving, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included (6 of the 8 SHANARRI indicators of wellbeing).

Responses have been incredibly positive so far:

87% rated a 4/5 or 5/5 for Achieving **81%** for Healthy
91% for Included **81%** for Responsible
86% for Active **71%** for Respected

More to follow, in the next newsletter. If you'd like to be involved we'd like to hear from you!

John Muir Award Training dates Spring 2015

Leader Training | These two-day residential courses give a thorough introduction to the John Muir Award.

17-18 March	Alnwick Youth Hostel, North East England
19-20 March	National Trust Stackpole, Pembrokeshire, Wales
18-19 April	Low Port Centre, Linlithgow, Scotland
25-26 April	Lagganlia Centre, Cairngorms National Park, Scotland
21-22 June	Whinlatter Forest, Lake District National Park (Non-residential)

Cost: £150 incl. food and accommodation (£100 for charity representatives and those attending in an individual capacity).

John Muir Award in Schools | One-day course for teachers to find out how the John Muir Award can be integrated into your work.

27 March	John Muir Trust Wildspace, Pitlochry	Cost: £40
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For more information on our training courses, including details of how to book, visit www.jmt.org/jmaward-leader-training.asp

It's Our World Online Art Gallery

Help create the largest online gallery of artworks celebrating the environment. Anyone aged 4-19 can create a piece of art about a place that means something to them, upload it, and be part of a massive UK-wide project. Schools, youth & community groups, outdoor centres, families...all are welcome to take part. The purpose is to provide a celebratory platform, promoting positive environmental action through art and inspiring participants to lead more active, healthy and sustainable lives.

Why is the John Muir Trust involved?

We want to promote engagement with wild places. We want to make sure that 'wildness' – nature, wildlife, landscapes, countryside – features prominently. We were invited to take an advisory role to help with some of the education and sustainability aspects of the project, and to promote it amongst our networks. We're delighted that Award Providers are using it to share experiences, and schools are using it as part of the national curriculum.

"Our Interdisciplinary Learning Project explored the Environmental, Physical and Human Geography of the Isle of Skye, enabling S1 and S2 pupils to share their interpretations of the landscape and the culture of their present-day lives. Part of the project was to produce artworks, inspired by Skye's habitat, wildlife and vegetation. These were made from recycled materials, linking to the ethos of 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle'. The pupils' artworks are very imaginative and I would like to share them with the rest of the UK."

Nikki Cannon, Portree High School, Isle of Skye



A number of our longstanding friends are on board. Jupiter Artland has shared inspiring art films from Andy Goldsworthy, Tania Kovats and Anya Gallacio, and 2020VISION resources and links are part of the Sustainability Resources.



Supporters include 2020VISION Young Champion Bertie Gregory, Dennis the Menace & Gnasher (honest! – they have posted on Facebook and Twitter). And former Blue Peter gardener Chris Collins has specially created 'Grow Your Own' resources.

Where's it going?

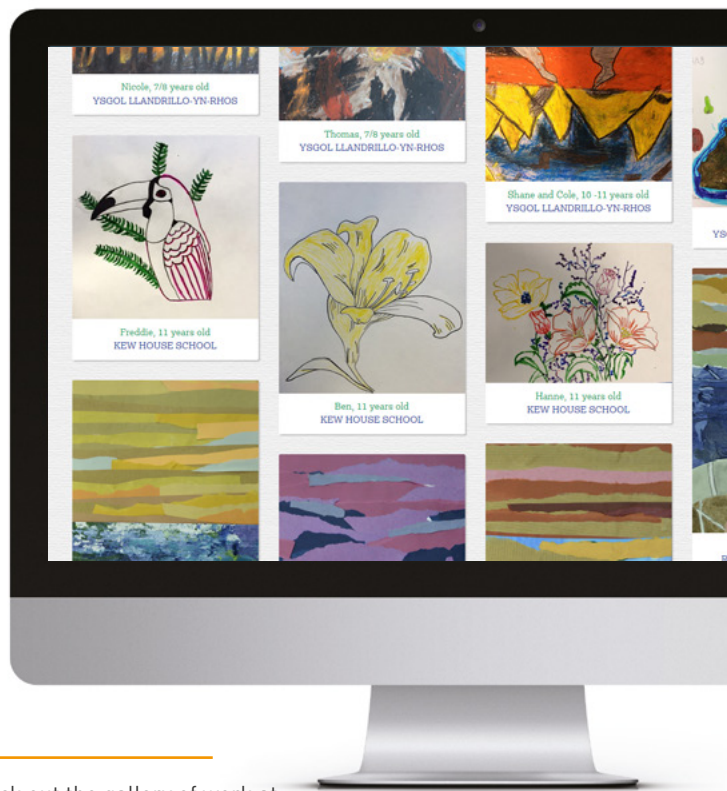
The entire collection will be handed over to The UK Web Archives at the British Library in December to be stored for the nation, coinciding with the World Leaders World Climate Challenge Summit. And watch out for a whole range of local and national press, as well as social media activity.

Get involved!

- Create art about the places that mean something to you
- Register for your own PIN code at admin@itisourworld.org.uk
- Take a look at what's already in the gallery at www.itisourworld.org.uk/gallery
- Upload images

Simple as that!

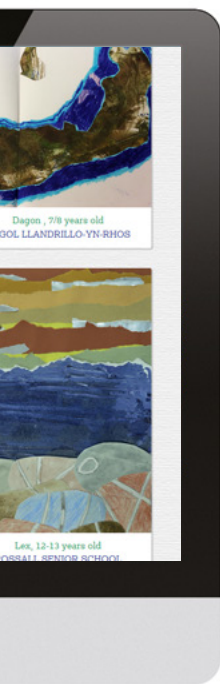
You can find art and sustainability ideas and resources to help. For more information visit www.itisourworld.org.uk and use [#ItsOurWorld2015](https://twitter.com/ItsOurWorld2015)



Check out the gallery of work at www.itisourworld.org.uk/gallery



Images (from top): Lake District by Rosie age 18; Stone Sculpture by Eilidh Sturrock age 16



“The John Muir Award has been, and continues to be, instrumental in the development of the It's Our World environmental arts project. Their commitment to inspiring young people to connect with wild places and to share their experiences, reflects the purpose behind It's Our World in many ways. Under their auspices, the project's representation has been able to grow and their input in the development of online sustainability resources has been invaluable.”

Patzi Shepperson,
It's Our World Co-ordinator

Sniffing, looking, feeling...

Kim, our Inclusion Manager looked up from the piles of paperwork on her cluttered desk and said 'Have you got a minute for me to share something'. It's usually worth having a minute when she says this. And she read the following from a Proposal Form – the one page document that people use to register for their John Muir Award:

“We'll look high and low, looking at trees along the bank and taking a closer look at what's under our feet.

We'll follow our nose, sniffing lichens, wet leaves, flowers, plants and bare earth.

We'll chase sounds by listening carefully with eyes closed and map those sounds.

We'll creep and crawl under bushes, through long grass, and lie on the ground looking at life from a bug's perspective.

We'll look into tree roots and holes along the river, sit down at quiet spots on the river bank to listen, draw/paint, make mud pictures/monsters, build stone towers, paint stones, survey wildlife and mini-beasts and take photographs.

We'll build dams and bridges showing how human interaction can affect the river habitat as it floods, make boats to race to show water flow, river dip to identify mini-beasts that indicate water quality/pollution, play a triangle food chain game to help us identify how the freshwater food chain works.

We'll build shelters to illustrate how they are important not only to humans but for wildlife both in the river and along its bank.

We'll play stealth games, hide and seek, tunnel tig to illustrate the point in a fun way.

We'll use journey sticks, cameras, memory camera and our Record Books to record and share our explorations by creating poetry and stories. We'll use a Four Challenge Review creatively by drawing, painting, telling stories.

We'll focus on the Pencaitland Railway Walk and its role as a wildlife corridor, as well as its history and cultural influence.

And we'll learn about John Muir and his passion for conserving wild places for future generations, too.”

“Who's the group?” I asked. Third year students from an East Lothian High School, as it turns out. 10 pupils, excluded from the classroom but not from school. The John Muir Award is being used as a diversionary tactic – an alternative to sitting in an exclusion room for 3 hours a week over a 10 week term. It's something for them to work towards, to give focus and recognition.

It's neither reward nor punishment. It's constructive use of time to understand and meet the needs of these pupils. To explore issues of confidence, communication, and physical, emotional and social risk-taking.

Of course young people don't need awards and certificates. But we all need triggers and motivations of different kinds.

Kim's sharing made me glad that the John Muir Award is one of the things that helps people get out sniffing, looking, feeling...enjoying, sharing, thinking, caring, doing, valuing.

More power in 2015 to all the partners, teachers, parents, instructors, rangers...who help make sure that we're connected with nature

Rob Bushby



Photo: Ellie Larkham, Shropshire Wildlife Trust



Link your John Muir Award to a local Wildlife Trust

Together, the Wildlife Trusts are the largest UK voluntary organisation dedicated to protecting wildlife and wild places, *writes Andy Naylor*. Every year, Wildlife Trusts welcome millions of visitors to their nature reserves and work with thousands of schools across the UK. Of the 36 Trusts in England, over half delivered the John Muir Award in 2014 to help people engage with nature across a diverse range of groups including schools, adult learning, and community volunteers.

How can you get involved?

Visit a local reserve

Find your nearest Wildlife Trust at www.wildlifetrusts.org/your-local-trust to locate a nature reserve near you. These can be urban or remote. You are closer than you might think! Make a visit part of your John Muir Award.

Join a schools programme

Many Wildlife Trusts have great education offerings. The Shropshire Wildlife Trust, for example, uses the Award as part of its work linking communities of Telford with their local green spaces. Pupils who live and go to school on a new housing development bordering a nature reserve have an opportunity to explore their local landscape and its heritage. The children also learn about the life and achievements of John Muir through class-based research and getting stuck into some 'Muir Missions'.

Work experience opportunities

Nature reserves can be great places to explore the world of work. The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, for example, works with groups of 16 to 19 year olds providing experience of working in the conservation sector. Activities involve surveying animals and plants, practical conservation, community outreach and event

planning. There are opportunities to learn about the value of habitat conservation and discover why they need protection.

"We use the John Muir Award to provide structure and focus for the project. It furnishes the students with a tangible award and recognition for their participation." **Dr Edward Tripp**

Volunteer programmes

Wildlife Trusts provide lots of well structured, brilliantly led volunteering opportunities.

The London Wildlife Trust has a regular community volunteer group that meets every Friday in a nature reserve in central Thamesmead. Surrounded by housing estates and areas of deprivation, the reserve itself is a concentration of grass, trees, waterways and a relic of the original marsh habitat. According to Jane Clarke:

"[The John Muir Award offers] individuals an opportunity to dig deeper into the beauty of the nature reserve and leave an even deeper sense of wonder of this place, and awareness of how to conserve it."

The London Wildlife Trust sees the Award as a key engagement tool and provides staff capacity to help manage Award delivery across a number of its reserves. This model has been very successful and we're now replicating it across other partners.



Photo: Ellie Larkham, Shropshire Wildlife Trust



Avon Wildlife Trust

Avon Wildlife Trust is dedicated to working with local people for local wildlife. Their Communities and Nature project aims to engage and inspire “vulnerable groups” to use and care for the wildlife and green spaces in their community. Tomorrows People is a young peoples’ charity based in central Bristol, and their 10 week “Working it Out” programme has already supported over 50 young people in to work, training or back in to education. Avon Wildlife Trust has developed a great partnership with Tomorrows People and has been supporting young people through the “Working it out” program to obtain their John Muir Awards.



Photo: Matt Harcourt, Avon Wildlife Trust

Images (clockwise from left): Norbury Primary School give the Shropshire Wildlife Trust a big thumbs up; Bugs count; Litter survey; Work experience; Pupils from Tilston Primary School planting trees as part of their John Muir Award

Campaigns

The John Muir Trust is delighted to support The Wildlife Trusts’ campaign for a Nature and Wellbeing Act. This proposes legislation to bring about the recovery of the natural environment, not only for wildlife but also for the physical and mental wellbeing of individuals. The Act recognises the fundamental importance of nature to our society and the economy, as well as its intrinsic worth. The proposals have been drafted by The Wildlife Trusts and the RSPB. A joint public campaign is urging politicians to “Act for Nature”.

The Nature and Wellbeing Act

An introduction



The Nature and Wellbeing Act is a proposal for a new law in England to restore nature and improve our quality of life

www.wildlifetrusts.org/how-you-can-help/our-campaigns

For more information and to join the campaign see www.wildlifetrusts.org/actfornature and [#ActForNature](https://twitter.com/ActForNature)

Participants on the Tomorrows People Project with the Avon Wildlife Trust use the Award as a framework to help develop skills



THE
JOHN
MUIR
DAY

Celebrations

18-26 APRIL 2015

#JohnMuirDay15

Tuesday 21st April is officially 'John Muir Day'. There's already a programme of events lined up around East Lothian – see www.visiteastlothian.org/johnmuir2015.asp

Keep an eye on the discoverjohnmuir.com events page for what's going on plus updates and links to the Scottish Natural Heritage website, the main hub for John Muir 2015 events.

Campaign to put 'nature' words back in children's dictionary

In January, 28 authors, poets and naturalists wrote to Oxford University Press calling for some of the fifty nature words lost from their Junior Dictionary to be reinstated. The issue first arose in 2007, was not corrected with the 2012 edition, and is now a growing concern as we look for cultural leadership in helping to support children's formative experiences of nature.



Deletions included *acorn, adder, ash, beech, bluebell, buttercup, conker, dandelion, fern, hazel, heather, heron, ivy, kingfisher, lark, mistletoe, nectar, newt, otter, pasture* and *willow*. The words taking their places included *attachment, block-graph, blog,*

broadband, bullet-point, celebrity, chatroom, committee, cut-and-paste, MP3 player and voice-mail.

In a recent Guardian essay 'The word-ward', author Robert Macfarlane says: 'The substitutions – the outdoor and the natural being displaced by the indoor and the virtual – are a small but significant symptom of the simulated screen life many of us live. The terrain beyond the city fringe is chiefly understood in terms of large generic units ("field", "hill", "valley", "wood"). It has become a bland landscape... To quote Wendell Berry, "people exploit what they have merely concluded to be of value, but they defend what they love, and to defend what we love we need a particularising language, for we love what we particularly know." Or as Cocker punchily puts it, "If acorn goes from the lexicon, the game is up for nature."

Follow the debate on Facebook and through Twitter via [#naturewords](https://twitter.com/naturewords). Oxford University Press 'welcome feedback on all our dictionaries' and can be contacted at bookquery.uk@oup.com

Landscapes for everyone

The John Muir Trust has joined forces with 27 organisations across Great Britain to campaign for the protection and enhancement of our treasured landscapes.

The coalition, which includes the Campaign to Protect Rural England, National Trust, British Mountaineering Council and Wilderness Foundation is believed to be the largest ever to be formed on this issue.

Ahead of May's general election, the coalition aims to raise the profile of landscapes and to emphasise their importance to our wellbeing, environment and economy.

With ongoing speculative development in and around sensitive areas, such as National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, we believe it is vital for future government policy and funding to reflect the

extraordinary value of landscapes.

Stuart Brooks, Chief Executive of the John Muir Trust said "Our wellbeing now and in the future depends on having access to wild places, which are vital for nature to thrive and people to restore their spirits. The John Muir Trust is proud to support this call for our precious landscapes to be properly valued in public policy and given the protection and enhancement they deserve."

It would be good to involve other sectors such as health, the arts, education, etc who might be interested in supporting it. So if you know of any national organisations that it might be worth us approaching please let us know.

Please get in touch with Sheila Wren in the first instance sheila.wren@jmt.org

LANDSCAPES FOR EVERYONE: CREATING A BETTER FUTURE

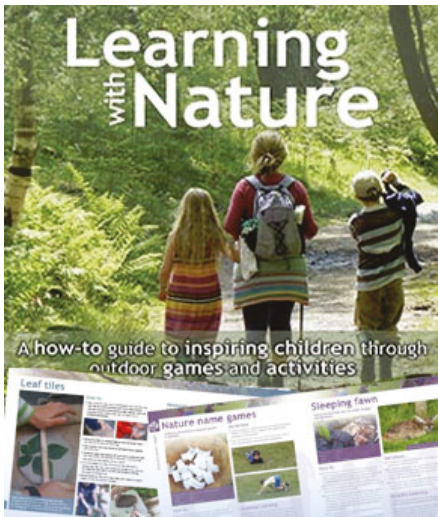
A shared vision of why we must treasure our landscapes and how Government can help

Learning with Nature

by Marina Robb, Victoria Mew, Anna Richardson

www.circleofliferediscovery.com | £14.99

Review by Graham Watson



Beautifully presented as a 'how-to' guide to inspire children, *Learning with Nature* is aimed at families, schools, youth groups and anyone working with children. Activities are suitable for ages 3 to 16 and will help develop practical skills, awareness and respect for the natural world. There are great images and a layout that is easy to follow.

The introduction gives context in the form of an intriguing diagram showing an 'extinction of experience' revealed by the decline in roaming radius from home of 8 year olds from the 1920s (6 miles) to 2007 (700 yards), followed by the benefits of increased time in nature. There's also advice on the art of questioning to nurture curiosity, and a section on Looking after Nature which sets out the interplay between nature and people to allow both to flourish. I was thinking hard even before I got to the activities! Activities are set out in four themes: games, naturalist, seasonal and survival skills. There's a large range and clear advice on resources needed (often none, which I like), number of people, age, duration and how to do it. A side box titled Invisible Learning gives an idea of what we might expect when using the activity, advice I found either reinforced my own ideas or alerted me to new possibilities.

This is much more than a collection of great activities. It aims to forge "a heartfelt relationship [with nature] that will renew and inform our culture, creating love and respect for the natural world" – something we can all buy in to. This is an excellent book for parents, teachers and youth leaders alike looking to inspire young people with nature. Get a copy and head outdoors!



The Wild Network is happy to share the 2015 Wildtime Calendar. It wants to map wild events of 2015 together in one easy-to-consult calendar. Submit your own events to reach a wider and wilder audience!

Filtered by postcode, category or month, the calendar should be easy to use and aspires to map wild activities in every region in the UK.

How does it work?

- To look for an event: <https://projectwildthing.com/calendar>
- To add an event: log on, go to 'my profile' and click 'submit a new event'
- Download your WILDTIME calendar with featured events

January Birdwatching
Garden birds are full of fluff for fun to nibble and needs for snacks. Join the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch - miles better than telly.

February Creature Dens
It's drizzle and cold. Treat a chilly creature to a cozy little home. Leaves, moss, twigs, rocks - construct something snug for a mouse or a bug.

March Stargazing
Amateur physics or ancient folklore: the stars have a wealth of surprises in store. The universe lies at the edge of your door... look up!

April Trail Blazing
Slip trails, deer trails, Easter trails... Have a cracking adventure tracking nature's treasury. Adorn the outdoors with the prints of your paw!

May Marvellous Barnacles
Down on the coast, rockpools can host diverse little worlds that will keep you engrossed. Go tidal with molluscs, have some dramatic viewing in a restaurant location.

June Bug Battle of Britain
Birds and bats are all around since moths and bees and bugs abound and thousands of them get devoured. Spruce out of your house, now and get recycling!

July Days by the Waterways
Finger licks are bigger than what river trips deliver. Fry and spit on one, or fish for your dinner! (Carnish and breathers have equally decent features!)

August Sleep under the Stars
Grab your tent or your Dads and get outside to make a camp. We applaud the nature champs who choose to embrace with trees and plants.

September Food for Free
Fishes frolic foraged for autumn storage. The squabbles are of it and so are we. Harvesting nature's delicacies: hazelnut cookies, apple chutney, bramble jelly.

October Time to go Bonkers
Schools disappear which is absolute nonsense, but WWTs enthusiastically sponsor the lighting of chimneys for rookering conkers. Bring 'em and swing 'em!

November Behaving like Cavemen
Fire make dark afternoons become bright and also provide us with primal delight. One out of the string room into the bulk: tinder, twigs, a spark... WHOOOSH!

December Evergreen Wreaths
Our festive collecting some holly and ivy, concealing a bonnet that's spiky and shiny. Become a winter king or queen - weave a wreath from evergreen.

A gift from... THE WILD NETWORK, rspb giving nature a home, National Trust

For details of these wildlife events, more wildlife inspiration and things to do head to www.projectwildthing.com/calendar

Increase in visits to natural environments

A report published in January represents the findings for the fifth year of the Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey. It shows that the English adult population made around 2.93 billion (yes, billion) visits to natural environments between March 2013 and February 2014 – the highest for 5 years. The report also provides statistics on use and enjoyment of the outdoors, along with new analysis on topics such as health and wellbeing, expenditure, and the gap between valuing the natural environment and taking action to conserve it.

There's also a new report on the scale and scope of visits to natural environments made by children in England. It highlights a link between social inequalities and the opportunities that children have to experience the natural environment, as well as the importance of local greenspace.

Many children visit frequently, but a significant minority never visit: 70% (around 7 million) visited the natural environment at least once a week and 12% (around 1.3 million) rarely, if ever, visited the natural environment.

There are strong links between adult and child visiting behaviours: in households where the adults frequently visit the natural environment, 80% of children were also frequent visitors; where the adults rarely (or never) visited, only 39% of children visited frequently.

Most children's visits were to local natural environments. These were important to all groups studied regardless of ethnicity or socio-economic status. In an average month, 47% of all children (4.8 million) visited local urban parks.



Professor Kevin Fenton, national director of health and wellbeing, Public Health England: "Making it easier and encouraging more children to enjoy the natural environment is an important part of their physical, mental and emotional development. It underpins the work to address childhood obesity, inactivity and ensuring every child has the best start in life."

See the reports at <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6579788732956672?category=47018>
(Or search **Jan 2015 MENE Report**)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/childrens-visits-to-natural-environments-new-evidence>

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Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba
All of nature for all of Scotland
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad

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