



Nottinghamshire
Wildlife Trust

Wild Education at Attenborough Nature Reserve

We offer a variety of educational visits for schools, colleges and universities to learn about nature and wildlife at this beautiful wetland reserve. Each visit is led by one of our experienced staff and supported by our enthusiastic and knowledgeable volunteers.

To enquire about a visit, please complete our [online enquiry form](#). Please note that filling out this form does not guarantee a booking on your preferred dates.



Forest School

We have a dedicated Education Wood that is a safe place to explore and experience nature on the reserve. We offer one-off and regular Forest School sessions for groups looking for a less formal learning experience. These bespoke sessions can be tailored to suit children of all ages and abilities, including:

- Bushcraft skills and basic tool use
- Mud kitchen
- Cooking on a fire
- Nature-based crafts
- EYFS book-themed sessions
- Seasonal activities
- Mindfulness and forest bathing
- Minibeast hunts
- Sensory trays
- And much more!



EYFS, KS1 & KS2

Choose 3 of the activities from the selection below. Each activity lasts for approximately 60 minutes and children will have the opportunity to complete all activities chosen during the visit.

WOODLAND EXPLORATION

- Sounds of the wood
- Leaf ID
- Minibeast hunt



POND DISCOVERY

- Pond scene
- Pond dipping
- Investigating finds



BIRD OBSERVATION

- Bird classification game
- Bird watching with binoculars
- True or false game



MEADOW SAFARI

- Parts of a plant
- Flower spotting
- 'Be a bee' game





KS3 & KS4

Choose 2 of the activities from the selection below. Each activity lasts for approximately 90 minutes and students will have the opportunity to complete both activities chosen during the visit.

POND STUDY

- Investigate a freshwater habitat by completing the OPAL water survey
- Identify and record freshwater invertebrate species, classifying them into groups using physical characteristics
- Use findings to draw conclusions regarding water quality and pollution levels

MEADOW STUDY

- Use sweep nets and beat trays to sample invertebrates in a meadow.
- Use species ID guides and simple keys to identify invertebrate species.
- Illustrate the Mark-Release-Recapture technique with a huge game of hide and seek!
- Discuss some of the assumptions made when using the MRR method.

WOODLAND STUDY

- Investigate the human impact on a woodland habitat
- Identify and record plant and terrestrial invertebrate species by classifying them into groups using physical characteristics
- Understand the characteristics of soil and how to test them
- Discuss experimental design and how to improve the fieldwork
- Discuss the implications of the results for the management of these habitats





A-level

Choose 2 of the activities from the selection below. Each activity lasts for approximately 90 minutes and students will have the opportunity to complete both activities chosen during the visit.

ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION

- Recognise the process of succession and its ecological applications
- Conduct a belt transect to determine the effect of soil depth on the abundance of two key plant species
- Discuss conclusions drawn, original hypothesis, expectations, reliability, possible methodical improvements
- **Suitable for AQA Required Practical 12 (or similar)**

BOTANICAL SURVEY

- Discuss conservation management and the need for surveys
- Use quadrats and a random sampling method to compare species richness and abundance in two meadows
- Identify and record plant species using ID charts and keys
- Discuss some of the factors affecting scientific data collection

Combination survey: Get experience of both a belt transect and random sampling as one activity. One meadow is sampled with each method, meaning statistical comparison is not possible with this option.

MOTILE POPULATION SAMPLING

- Use sweep nets and beat trays to sample invertebrates in a meadow.
- Use species ID guides and simple keys to identify invertebrate species.
- Illustrate Mark-Release-Recapture with a huge game of hide and seek!
- Discuss some of the assumptions made when using the MRR method.

WATER POLLUTION SURVEY

- Investigate a freshwater habitat by completing the OPAL water survey at two contrasting sites
- Identify and record freshwater invertebrate species, classifying them into groups using physical characteristics
- Use findings to draw conclusions regarding water quality

UNIVERSITY GUIDED WALKS

Our university guided walks are usually 2 hours in length. When completing our online form, please give an indication of the subjects you would like our leader to focus on e.g. site history, habitats and designations, conservation management or wildlife.