



Warwickshire

Warwickshire

Wildlife Trust



Foundation Stage
Education Pack
2012



Contents

Page 3	Introduction to Brandon Marsh
Page 4	Introduction to The Parkridge Centre
Page 5	Location and contact details
Page 6	Education programme at Brandon Marsh
Page 7	Table of topics offered
Page 8	Topic contents
Page 11	What to wear
Page 12	Prices



Brandon Marsh



- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- One of the most important wetland nature reserves in the Midlands
- Pools, marsh, reedbed, grassland and woodland habitats
- Nature trails, bird hides and visitor centre
- Education centre
- Interactive displays
- Sensory garden
- Tea room with external dining area
- Gift shop

Brandon Marsh is the ideal place for your school visit due to its excellent opportunities for learning about nature, wildlife and the environment. We have ponds, bird hides, meadows and woodlands all set within our 200 acre nature reserve. The Education Team can provide your school with a tailor made package for your day where you can cover up to four topics. We have excellent facilities for children of all ages as well as those with special educational needs.

There is a designated area for children to eat their lunch as well as a tea room if the teachers need a well earned cup of tea! The children will have an allocated time to visit the gift shop so they can purchase their souvenirs from their exciting day on the reserve.

Your pupils will get to experience a day out in the wild and get to see wildlife and plants that they may not have seen before. There may even be something the teachers have not seen before!



Parkridge Centre



- Interactive displays
- Tea room
- Education centre
- Wildlife gift shop
- Five acre nature park
- Woodlands

Parkridge Centre is in a great location in the heart of Brueton Park, Solihull. It is an ideal location for younger children to explore their local area and experience the nature and wildlife that our area has to offer. We have a five acre nature park, where we hold our sessions which is separate from Brueton Park. However, we would recommend visiting the main park as part of your day.

There is a classroom and courtyard for the children as well as a well marked path throughout the park. The nature park has a lake which attracts many birds and other wildlife, an arboretum which is ideal for minibeast hunting, a woodland and a play area if the children have been good!

Once again we can tailor sessions to suit your pupils' needs and we will allow time to visit the gift shop during the day.

We can offer all sessions here and it is ideal for children from Foundation Stage upwards.

Parkridge Centre is a great place for introducing children to nature and the wildlife they can find on their own doorstep and the activities we offer can really engage them with their environment.

Location and Contact Details

Brandon Marsh Nature Centre Brandon Lane, Coventry CV3 3GW



Parkridge Centre Brueton Park Warwick Road, Solihull B91 3HW



Senior Education Ranger
Vicky Worthington
024 7630 8977
victoria.worthington@wkw.org.uk

Education Ranger
Amy Dowling
024 7630 2912
amy.dowling@wkw.org.uk

Education Sessions and Activities

All our topics have great curriculum links and provide a great accompaniment to theory covered at school. With fully engaging practical activities your pupils will gain a real understanding of their topic and enjoy a great opportunity to be in the great outdoors.

A half day trip will comprise of two 45 minute activities with a full day being four activities. We can also come out to your school and run sessions for you in your school grounds which can be a great option if you would like to keep the children on site.

Example Timetable (Half day)

10.00-10.15

Arrival and introduction

10.15-11.00

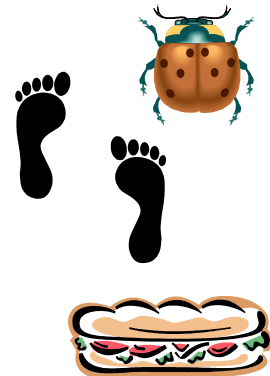
Minibeast Safari

11.00-11.45

Nature Walk

11.45-12.45

Lunch and Departure



Foundation Programme

Topic	Availability	Suitable for Outreach
Sensory Explorer	All year	
Teddy Bears' Picnic	All year	
Minibeast Safari	March to October	
Beautiful Birds	All year	
Tree Watch	All year	
Pond Dipping	February to November	
Folklore and Fairytales	All year	
Nature Craft	All year	
Hedgehogs and Hibernation	September to November	

Sensory Experience

Experience the five senses: smell, touch, hearing, sight and taste. To investigate their smell sense children collect different plants and flowers in the garden to make their own smelly cocktail. Using texture cards, children try and match up things they find in nature with the different texture on the cards to understand their touch sense. The sounds of nature are hopefully picked up by even the noisiest children!

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Each child (& adult) brings their own teddy bear! The children undertake a sensory walk and play a series of games to understand the needs of living things. The children create a shelter containing all the things that teddies need to survive.

Minibeast Safari

Children explore the meadow and woodland see where different minibeasts live. Children will discover what minibeasts live in the woods and learn about how they move.

Beautiful Birds

Children visit one of our bird hides on the reserve. Children will learn how to use binoculars and see all the different birds we have at the reserve.

Tree Watch

Go down to the woodland to use your senses to explore the trees in a new way. Children take bark rubbings and look at the different leaves on the trees they can see. Children get friendly with nature by hugging a tree and exploring its texture whilst blindfolded!

Pond Dipping

Armed with a pond net, the children sample the animal life in the pond and discover what lurks in the water. They can see how all the different creatures move and learn about frogs.

Nature's Craft

Children collect things from the reserve and use them to make a craft which they can take home.

Hedgehogs and Hibernation

Your pupils will find out about hedgehogs and hibernation. Children will play a hedgehog game and see if they can make a hibernation home for their hedgehog.

All topics have great curriculum links <http://curriculum.qcda.gov.uk>.

What to Wear

The majority of your day will be spent outside so please ensure that all pupils are suitably dressed.



Summer

- Long sleeves and long trousers as the children could be in long vegetation
- Sun hat
- Sun cream
- Waterproofs
- Sturdy shoes or wellies



Winter

- Warm clothing
- Hat, scarf and gloves
- Waterproofs
- Sturdy shoes or wellies

Education Session & Activity Charges

In-house

£3.50 per child (half a day) Min £70 +VAT (20)
£6 per child (full day) Min £110 +VAT (20)

Outreach

N.B. Prices include WWT staff travel costs and prep time etc

After School Club	£700+VAT for 10 week programme, 1 hour per week
Outreach session	£70+VAT per class per topic
School Assemblies	£70+VAT for one hour
Informal talks (outreach)	£40+VAT for 30 minutes

Ready to book with us or want further information?

Simply contact the Education Team who will be happy to assist with your booking or any queries you may have.

Senior Education Ranger
Vicky Worthington
024 7630 8977
victoria.worthington@wkw.org.uk

Education Ranger
Amy Dowling
024 7630 2912
amy.dowling@wkw.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to our centre.