

How to book

- Shropshire Wildlife Trust education staff have enhanced CRB checks and are first aid qualified. Certificates are available on request.
- When you book your school trip or workshop you will receive a school visit pack. This includes a confirmation letter with a full itinerary, information on what to wear, risk assessments, information for parents and helpers and, if relevant, pre-visit information for the children.
- Please note the health and welfare of the group lies ultimately with you, their teaching staff. Shropshire Wildlife Trust has a higher duty of care and will support your role in any way we can.
- Let us know the date, workshop, location, numbers of children and adult helpers and we'll do the rest.

Get in touch with us

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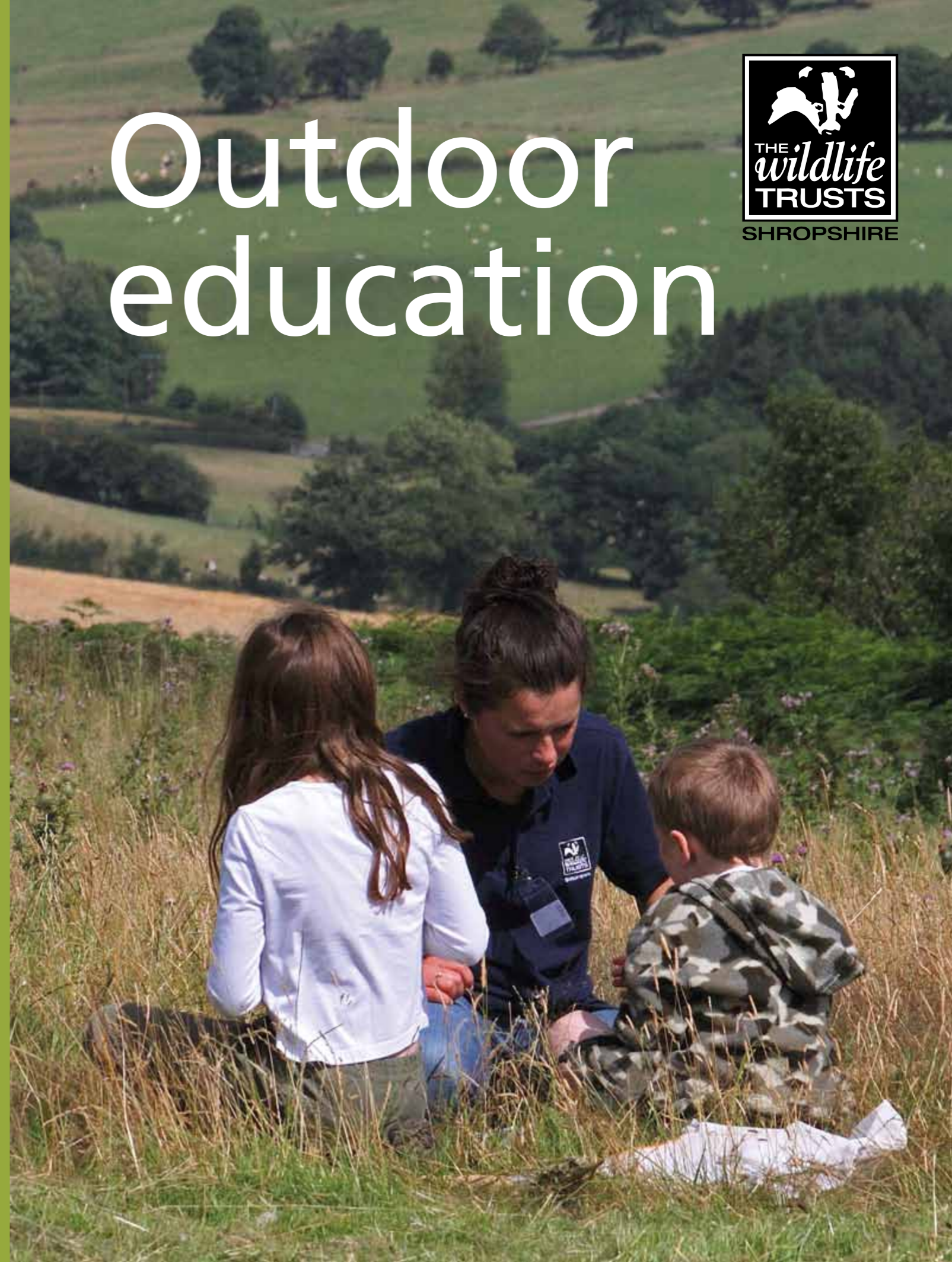
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Outdoor education



Shropshire Wildlife Trust protects **Wildlife** where you live



Discover the natural world

Give children the chance to discover creatures living under a stone; to feel the different kinds of bark on trees or to soak up the sounds and scents of a wood and they will quickly enter into the world around them.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust can:

- arrange visits to local wild places, supported by experienced and inspirational guides
- offer a programme of workshops for all ages
- create inspiring experiences of wildlife in some of Shropshire's most beautiful locations
- organise training courses for anyone working with young people
- visit you in your setting to help you get the most out of your grounds

A living landscape

Think big. That is Shropshire Wildlife Trust's vision for protecting wild places. No longer is the Trust simply saving isolated pockets of high conservation value, it is connecting wild areas over the whole county.

We aim to stitch fragmented habitats back together by encouraging everyone to do something for the living landscape. Every flower in your garden that draws a bee helps bring the landscape alive. What can you do at home, in school or in your local green space?

Shropshire Wildlife Trust would like to see a Shropshire richer in wildlife. We aim to inspire and motivate young people to look after our world.

If you are interested in joining or finding more about our work, see www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

Shropshire Wildlife Trust was founded in 1962 and now has more than 10,000 members that share our vision. The Trust needs your support to continue its work. We have 36 nature reserves and we campaign both locally and nationally for wildlife.



Shropshire's living landscape



From woods, flower-rich meadows, hills, wild heathland and wetlands ringing with birds to organic farms and orchards; wherever you are within the county there are numerous opportunities to get out and explore.

Nature is everywhere. You will find it in gardens, parks and coming up between the paving stones in towns and villages. You will be amazed what lives just beyond your doorstep!

Shrewsbury

The River Severn flows through the heart of this picturesque town. Look out for kingfishers and brightly coloured butterflies. Explore the flower rich meadows of Rea Brook Valley and go stream dipping in a babbling brook.

Telford

Explore Telford's green network, build a den under the mighty oaks of the Wrekin Forest or search for lizards and newts in Telford's Town Park. Climb to the top of the Wrekin and The Ercall to hear tales of feuding giants.

North Shropshire Meres and Mosses

A landscape of contrasts. Travel back in time to a rare and ancient ice age landscape, with pickled beetles and insect eating plants, or explore the many questions we have about our future with a sustainability workshop at Wood Lane.

Oswestry Hills

Wide open spaces, ancient woodlands and beautiful grasslands dotted with orchids. All buzzing with insects and steeped in local history. The perfect place for a picnic and some great views over the rest of Shropshire.

South Shropshire Hills

Listen for calls of raven and red grouse, roam through wild heather and ancient groves of holly trees; hear strange tales of Wild Edric and the Crafty Cobbler.

For more information on our nature reserves see www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk or contact us to see what we can offer in your locality.

Wood Lane Nature Reserve



This unique reserve offers unparalleled access to

- a nature reserve on restored quarry workings
- a working sand and gravel quarry
- an active landfill site
- a material recycling facility which is the largest in Europe.

Every year hundreds of school children visit the reserve with the Trust's teaching staff to find out about birds, beetles, rocks, rubbish and recycling. Guided visits for community groups can be arranged on request.

The Lapwing Hide looks out over the wetland reserve and this is the main bird watching hide. From here, follow the baby bird trail to see chicks hidden in the vegetation.

Enter the Shelduck hide and shrink to the size of a water bug. The interior of the hide is decorated to create an underwater world with interpretation for those that want to learn more.

Talking rocks tell the story of Wood Lane's Ice Age past.

Discover the watery world of Wood Lane by investigating the wildlife pond. Visit the grassland to compare species diversity and abundance.

The Forest School Woodland offers a base-camp and fire-pit area as well as a woodland shelter.

A recent review:

A great day – full of interesting and informative activities. The children all got a lot from the day – a great mix of learning about the environment, nature plus diggers for the boys! Thank you. Teacher, Trefonen Primary School.

Visit www.woodlanereserve.co.uk for more information
Contact Shropshire Wildlife Trust to book your visit.



Wildlife Watch

Wildlife Watch is the junior branch of The Wildlife Trusts and the UK's leading environmental action club for kids.

If you care about nature and the environment and want to explore your local wildlife – this is the club for YOU!

There are 150,000 Wildlife Watch members around the UK and hundreds of local Watch groups where young people get stuck into environmental activities.

Joining Wildlife Watch is an exciting way to explore your surroundings and get closer to the wildlife you share it with.

Members receive a starter pack and four issues of Wildlife Watch magazine a year. This is packed full of amazing pictures, puzzles, competitions and you get a fantastic free wildlife poster with each issue.

We also have a really wild website and a monthly e-newsletter full of wild ideas and nature-spotting tips.

And the best thing about being a member is that by joining Wildlife Watch you'll be helping your local Wildlife Trust to care for the wildlife where you live! Isn't that great?



You can join online.
Visit www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk
for more information.



How do I get involved?

Forest School

Forest School is a popular and effective way of delivering the curriculum outdoors. Regular sessions are held in a local wild place or school grounds by a qualified leader. Children are given small achievable tasks but at the same time encouraged to follow their own ideas and instincts. Increased self esteem, enhanced curiosity, stronger physical stamina, co-operative skills and habits of observation have all been recorded in children attending regular Forest School sessions.

Taster sessions

Shropshire Wildlife Trust can introduce the Forest School ethos during taster sessions for staff, children, parents and governors.

Delivery

Shropshire Wildlife Trust leads and develops sessions in woods and other wild places all over Shropshire or we can work with you locally if you have a suitable location near your school. The Trust has two Level 3 Forest School leaders.

Resources

Shropshire Wildlife Trust has a range of sustainable wooden resources for den building, mallet making, base-camp construction and maintenance. We can also assist the development of a Forest School area at school.

Training

Shropshire Wildlife Trust is working with the Forest School Learning Initiative to deliver Level 3 training courses. If you would like to know more, please contact Helen Trotman on 01743 284297 or helent@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk.

John Muir award

John Muir was an inspirational Scottish man who founded the first wilderness areas in America. The John Muir award encourages everyone to care for the wild places all around them through discovery and exploration. It is a fun way of promoting personal development as well as inspiring responsibility for, and conservation of, local green places.



Shropshire Wildlife Trust can support anyone (individuals or a class, group or club) intending to complete this environmental award.

CPD courses

Shropshire Wildlife Trust offers a seasonal range of training workshops to boost your knowledge and confidence. We can also organise training for staff meetings or PD days.

School grounds development

Shropshire Wildlife Trust can help you develop your school grounds for wildlife. Site visits can be arranged by request.

School holidays and special events

Shropshire Wildlife Trust hosts discovery days and special events for families all over Shropshire. We can also support events organised by schools, groups or clubs or visit children's clubs in the holidays.



Nature tots

Early Years and Foundation Stage

Life is so simple when you're little isn't it? Stomping in puddles, finding sticks and pine cones or playing in mud.

Use our workshops to encourage awe and wonder of the natural world, from the smallest bug to the tallest tree.

Nature Tots – A welly wildlife stomp

2 hours £75

Get your wellies on and come with us on a journey. Stomp in puddles, make a wild map and make a natural den for a very special creature.

Nature Tots – Caring for our world

2 hours £75

Roll up your sleeves to make a sticky, gooey birdfeeder and hang it up in your grounds. Go on a wildlife walk to discover some really wild creatures.

Darwin's worms

Celebrate the link between Charles Darwin, Shropshire and earthworms; a wormery is an excellent way of encouraging children to get their hands dirty, learn about lifecycles and to recycle their waste.

Download our nursery education pack, which includes everything you need to know about worms and how to care for them. For ideas on worm-inspired art, drama and music activities download our worm art pack.

www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk



Key Stage One



A sensory journey

Half day £100; full day £200

Join us on a sensory trip, experiencing nature's smells, textures, sights and sounds. Create a record of your experience using journey sticks, leaf crowns and smelly cocktails.

Ugly bug crawl

Half Day £100

Explore and find bugs, slugs and creepy crawlies. Observe them closely, compare with humans and create a bug sculpture using natural materials.

Get crafty!

Half day £100; full day £200

Use natural materials to create crowns, collages and sculptures. Learn about local wildlife and discover the gorgeous colours and textures in the natural world.

Darwin discovery

Half Day £100

Follow in young Darwin's footsteps as we explore the natural world. Take part in a natural treasure hunt, discover insects and worms and make a collection of natural objects. **Also available for Key Stage 2**

Habitats and minibeasts

Half day £100; full day £200

What is a habitat? What types of creatures live in grassland and woodland? Look out for their similarities and differences. Take part in a range of games to introduce key concepts.

Diggers!

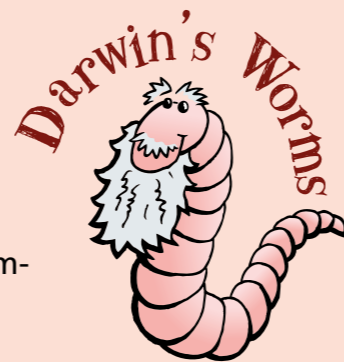
2 hours £75

Enjoy a quarry tour around Wood Lane nature reserve, near Ellesmere. Wear hard hats and jackets and watch the diggers in the quarry lift, carry and drop sand and gravel. A great visit to introduce materials and forces.

Bushcraft day

Half Day £100; full day £200

How often do you get the chance to freely explore a wonderful woodland whilst completing simple challenges? Use natural resources to create a picture frame or a woodland mobile before the campfire celebration begins.



Key Stage Two



Secrets of waste

Full day £200

An exciting day at Wood Lane nature reserve, Ellesmere, exploring sustainability issues through practical activities. Take part in our challenges to discover the Secrets of W.A.S.T.E.

Lovely weather

Half day £100, Full day £200

An introduction to weather and the water cycle. How does weather affect our behaviour and is the weather the same all over the world? Take part in a series of experiments to learn about the water cycle and how water is vital to life on earth.

Get crafty!

Half day £100; full day £200

Explore your local surroundings and collect materials for colourful crafts, big art and natural sculptures.

Wild folklore

Half day £100; full day £200

Use wild places as the inspiration for story telling and making. Take part in a series of activities exploring language, communication and team building. Learn some local legends and weave your very own story to share with others.

Shropshire rocks & minerals

Half Day £100

Take part in a tour of the quarry at Wood Lane nature reserve, Ellesmere to find out about quarrying, rocks and the formation of the landscape. Carry out investigations comparing rock types and look for ancient fossils in limestone.

Habitats, lifecycles & food-chains

Half day £100; full day £200

Explore different habitats and talk about adaptation. Which minibeasts can be found there and why? Discover the lifecycles of the animals we find and investigate their connections using food-chains.

Bushcraft day

Half Day £100; full day £200

Experience a wonderful woodland location whilst learning some crucial survival techniques. Develop communication, organisational and team skills with fun challenges culminating in a campfire celebration.

Darwin discovery

Half Day £100

Follow in Young Darwin's footsteps as we explore the natural world. Take part in a natural treasure hunt, discover insects and worms and make a collection of natural objects.

Also available for Key Stage 1

Key Stage Three and beyond

Climate Change

Full Day £200

Wood Lane Nature Reserve is an ideal location to learn about climate change and the effects on ourselves and wildlife. Compare weather and climate and contribute to national studies of climate change.

Sustainability

Half Day £100; Full Day £200

Develop an understanding of what sustainability means and take part in a lively debate, where students become the decision makers in a sustainable future. What laws will they pass and how will they shape the creation of a sustainable future?

Industry versus conservation

Full day £200

How can industry work with conservation in a managed landscape? Compare the operations of the quarry at Wood Lane with the nature reserve created on reclaimed land. Take a first-hand look at how human activity can change the environment.



Discover the Meres and Mosses

Full Day £200

Immerse yourself in an ancient landscape and learn more about conservation as we take you on a tour of Shropshire's most vulnerable wetland habitats.

Story-making and telling in the natural world

Half day £100; full day £200

Gain a new perspective on the natural world and improve your communication skills. Use wild props and your imagination to find stories in the woods.

Conservation days

Full Day £225

Shropshire Wildlife Trust can arrange guided, practical conservation activity days on many of its nature reserves.

Work experience

Applications are invited from October to December for placements in June and July.

Duke of Edinburgh award

Service to the community is an important part of the award. Participants take part in practical projects including gardening and grounds maintenance at Shropshire Wildlife Trust's HQ in Shrewsbury.

