

# Blashford Lakes Centre

## Activities for Key Stage 1

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Many teachers know that the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's **Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve** is a fantastic place to visit in the summer and that it is *the* place to teach children about **habitats!**

The nature reserve's mosaic of lakes, ponds, river, woodland and grassland, provides the perfect location for hands on activities that enable children to compare habitats, discover wildlife and marvel at animal and plant adaptations.

But did you know that Blashford Lakes offers **even more throughout the year?** Many activities are best done in the autumn and spring terms - we provide exciting, fun and inspirational activities year round, what ever the weather!

Read on to find out more, and if you can't find what you're looking for, please ask - many of the activities that are on offer were originally inspired by a request from a teacher looking to support their topic work.



### The three little pigs

Everyone knows the story of the three little pigs BUT, not everyone knows what happened next. We do! Using the medium of a story, the children will retrace the adventure of the three little pigs around the Nature Reserve. They will learn how to sort and group materials according to their characteristics and discover some of their uses and how they can be changed.

#### Learning Opportunities:

Science – Materials and their properties  
English – Speaking and listening  
DT – Knowledge, skills and understanding  
Problem solving and teamwork focusing on communication and discussion.



### Fire play and den building!

Spend a whole day outdoors learning basic bushcraft skills. Work in teams to build a shelter and learn how to safely light a fire before cooking up a tasty treat to enjoy altogether.

#### Learning Opportunities:

Maths – Shape, space and measures  
Science – Materials and their properties  
English – Speaking and listening  
DT - Working with tools, equipment, materials and components to make quality products  
Problem solving and teamwork focusing on communication and discussion.



### Natural art attack

Use your senses to explore Blashford Lakes and seek inspiration from nature to create wild masterpieces using natural materials. Weave willow, create woodland collages and sculpt a 'boglin' from clay you've dug up from the ground yourself.

#### Learning Opportunities:

Maths – Shape, space and measures  
Science – Materials and their properties  
English – Speaking and listening  
Art and Design – Knowledge, skills and understanding





## Flower power

Find out what seeds and plants need to grow and discover the variety of shapes, colours and special adaptations of plants. Play games which illustrate seed dispersal, and be part of the drama of a tree's life. Learn how the lives of plants and insects are interlinked and play the 'Bee Game' to find out how bees find nectar and help the flowers too! Get hands on exploring plants and their many minibeast visitors.

### Learning Opportunities:

Science – Life processes and living things  
English – Speaking and listening



## Map-tastic

Develop geographical skills, including use of words, maps and recording information. The children will look at aerial photos and maps in the Centre before using a map to find their way around the Nature reserve. They will follow in the footsteps of newts to find out where they spend the winter and use a giant map to help find the bugs for the giant bug ball! Finally they will use natural materials to make a map to use to find some hidden treasure!

### Learning Opportunities:

Geography – Knowledge and understanding of places  
Maths – Shape, space and measures  
English – Speaking and listening



## What a load of rubbish!

Find out about the wildlife that lives at Blashford Lakes and discover what impact rubbish could have on it. Learn how long rubbish will last if we just throw it away by constructing a waste time line and think about how we might re-use it. At lunch time join in the Waste Free Lunch Competition and sort your lunch rubbish to see just how much is going to be sent to landfill.

### Learning Opportunities:

Geography – Knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development  
Science – Life processes and living things  
Citizenship



## Making sense of the world

Outdoor activities to awaken the senses and discover the natural world through hearing, sight, smell, touch - and even taste!

### Learning Opportunities:

Science – Life processes and living things  
Science - Materials and their properties  
English – Speaking and listening  
Art and Design – Knowledge, skills and understanding

## Contact Us

There is no formal charge for group visits but we do rely on your donations to help towards the running costs of the centre and nature reserve – as such we ask for a suggested donation of £4 per person for half a day (£60 minimum donation) or £7 per person for a full day (£100 minimum donation).

To book your visit and discuss how we can tailor your day of activities to suit your learning objectives please contact us on 01425 472760 or email [BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk](mailto:BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk).

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

The Blashford Project is a partnership project between Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, the New Forest District Council, Bournemouth Water and Wessex Water

