



Northumberland  
Wildlife Trust

# Exploring nature

Education sessions for schools KS1/KS2

[nwt.org.uk/education](http://nwt.org.uk/education)



Image: Helen Walsh, 2013

## Step into wildlife

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is one of the leading environmental educational providers in the region, dedicated to promoting nature conservation and inspiring people about their environment within Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland. The Trust provides a range of exciting activities encouraging children to learn and actively participate outside the standard classroom environment.

Our experienced and dedicated staff can help you bring your learning programme to life at one of our nature reserves, or we can come out to your school grounds, or to a local green space. We will work with you to achieve your goals and make environmental education inspiring, relevant and fun for the children.



### What can Outdoor Learning deliver?

- Promotes physical exercise and mental well-being
- Encourages social skills and good citizenship
- Facilitates connection with nature
- Develops independent thinking
- Improves knowledge retention through hands-on experience
- Builds self-awareness and confidence





## Wild choices for the day

We have an excellent track record of providing inspirational, effective learning experiences for teachers and pupils at KS1 and KS2 level across a varied range of subjects.

We can help you to enhance your school's efforts to teach pupils about the environment and sustainability in our practical, educational and fun sessions including:









-  Pond-dipping
-  Animal tracks & trails, skins & skulls
-  Minibeast hunts
-  Nature trails and scavenger hunts
-  Beach cleans
-  Map making
-  Forest School (min 6 sessions) including bushcraft, den building and campfire cooking
-  Quizzes and games on animals, birds, trees, lifecycles, food chains, seasons, adaptation







Image: Lynette Friend, 2016

### A typical day






We split larger classes into smaller groups, rotating activities. Some activities may also be delivered as a whole class.

### What's included?

-  We plan the day together to meet your specific requirements
-  We complete the risk assessment and other health and safety requirements
-  We provide experienced and qualified staff; volunteers often help with delivery
-  We provide all tools, equipment, protective clothing and learning resources

### All you need to do is:

-  Provide teacher supervision to help run the sessions with appropriate adult/child ratios and a trained First Aider
-  Arrange transport to and from the activity, where applicable
-  Complete and return the booking form, providing details of medical/educational needs to help us plan and deliver the day in the most appropriate way

### Prices

Prices vary depending on what you would like to do but we charge £250 per Trust staff member per day for a class of up to 30 children; this equates to just over £8 per child. We recommend that you choose several activities to deliver to smaller groups to make the best use of your day.



# Locations

## Education at Hauxley, Druridge Bay

Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre has excellent facilities to host visits from schools and other educational groups. The circular walk around the nature reserve takes you through wetland, meadow and woodland, with 6 hides from where you can watch wildlife. The pond with dipping platform allows for close exploration of an aquatic environment. In addition, we have a dedicated classroom for up to 30 students, with accessible toilets.

As well as the workshops run by wildlife experts (see pages 4-5) you can also 'do your own thing' and hire the purpose-built classroom for £60 per day to teach, store your own equipment and have your lunch. Please contact the Centre for more information on 01665 568 324 or mail@northwt.org.uk. Note - it is essential to make a firm booking well in advance as meeting room space and coach parking is limited.

## Education at Northumberlandia, Cramlington

Northumberlandia is an unusual site to combine learning about art, heritage, geography and of course wildlife and habitats. It's a unique piece of art set in a 46 acres of woodland and grassland. The centrepiece is the world's largest human landform sculpture of a reclining lady, designed by internationally renowned artist, Charles Jencks.

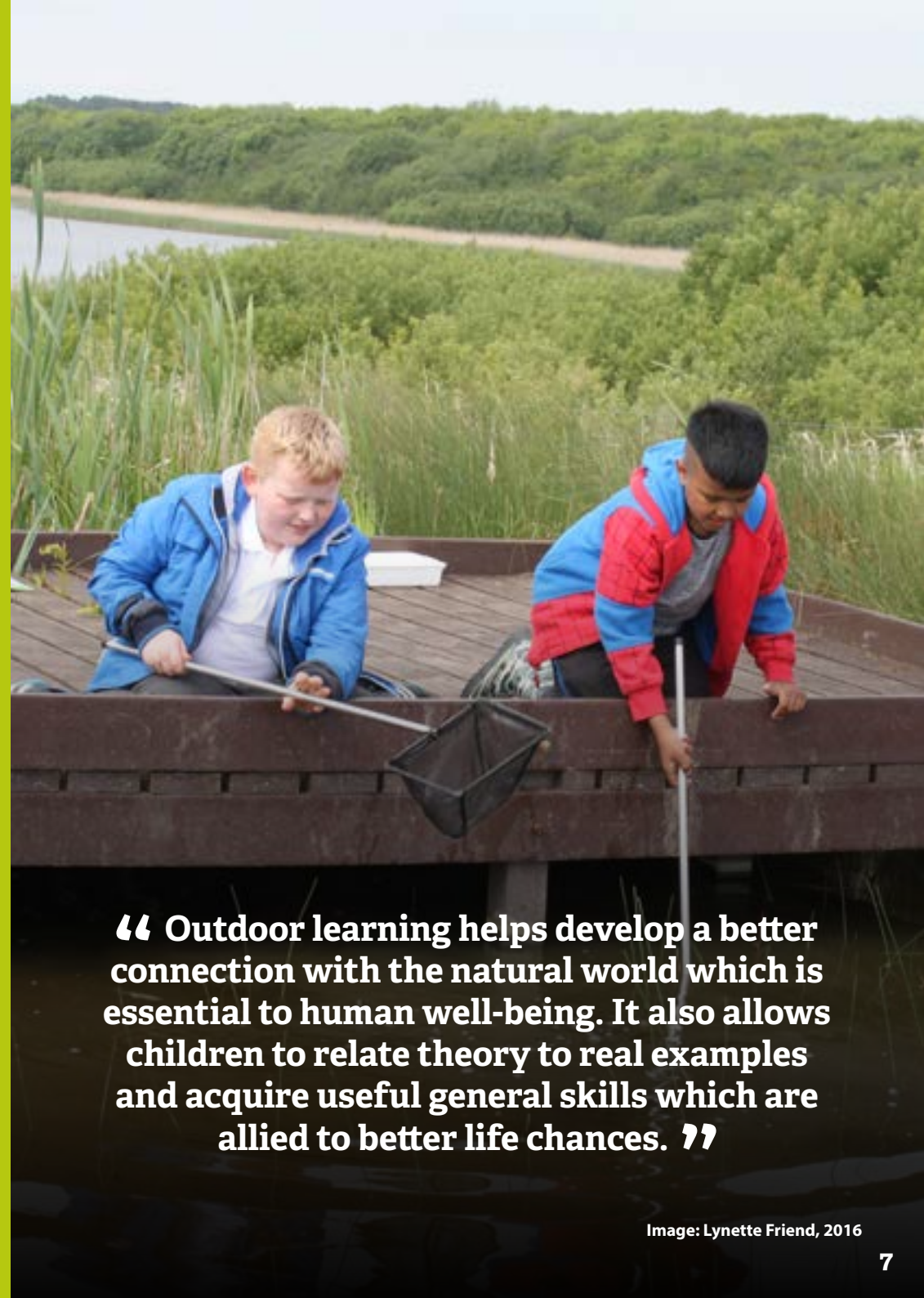
We offer expert-led visits to Northumberlandia (see pages 4-5) but you are also very welcome to come on a self-guided visit, but please do let us know if you are a larger group (more than 10), or if you would like to bring a coach or mini bus so we can plan for parking – donation £25. Please contact 01670 738701 or mail@northwt.org.uk.

## Education in school grounds

NWT can deliver activities in your school grounds, which provides a valuable opportunity to connect with nature on a regular basis, improve your site and avoid transport.

## Forest School Programme

Forest School is an intensive process that offers children, young people and adults regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence, resilience and team building through hands-on learning in a woodland environment. It can be delivered at any suitable site where we have permission but it requires a minimum of 6 sessions and smaller class sizes (max 16 children per NWT staff member).



**“ Outdoor learning helps develop a better connection with the natural world which is essential to human well-being. It also allows children to relate theory to real examples and acquire useful general skills which are allied to better life chances. ”**

Image: Lynette Friend, 2016

Our education team have considerable experience in delivering safe, effective, local learning activities and programmes directly to teaching staff and students. We have an unparalleled network of well-managed, accessible and inspiring local sites across the region and we have strong links with local communities. Our feedback speaks for itself:

*"Fresh air, nature and exploration. The children love it and get so much out of the experience! It's a fantastic opportunity to learn new skills as well as support language and communicate."*

**Amberley Primary School**

*"Every single student has been totally engaged. Taking learning outside was key to their appreciation...It has been a very rewarding and valuable experience."*

**Allendale Primary School**

*"Superb organisation and enthusiasm."*




**Trinity Primary School**

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**Cover image: Lynette Friend, 2018**

**We have complied with the government's guidance on managing the risk of COVID-19**