RUTLAND WATER PARK
SCHOOLS BROCHURE

The Education Team - Anglian Water Birdwatching Centre - Egleton - Rutland - LE15 8BT

01572 653042
anglianwatereducation@rutlandrutlandwater.org.uk

Love every drop. Put water at the heart of a whole new way of living.

Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust

Conservation and Industry working in partnership
DISCOVER

LEARN

EXPLORE
This booklet is intended to provide you with a guide to the activities and educational resources offered by Rutland Water Park.

Rutland Water Nature Reserve and Anglian Water are committed to education and as a result we have a range of education days that are free of charge to pre booked school, college and university groups. We also have a range of optional extras, and other fun activity days that have a cost associated with them, this is detailed in the brochure.

We look forward to meeting you in the future!

The Education Team

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About Us

Set in 4200 acres of open countryside, Rutland Water Park is the central rural attraction in England's smallest county of Rutland and offers activities for all the family, as well as many options for great Education experiences.

The Rutland Water Park Education Team deliver a range of education and activity sessions. Utilising the whole of the reservoir topics covered include, Nature and Conservation to Tourism, with many more adventurous subjects in-between.

On the Western Shore lies Rutland Water Nature Reserve, which is home to Rutland Environmental Education Centre (REEC). REEC is funded by Anglian Water and delivers environmental education to learners of all ages. Through active learning and practical investigation students are encouraged to respect the environment, become involved in natural history and understand why the natural world is important. All sessions are fully risk assessed and regularly reviewed to ensure they maintain excellent standards in safety and content.

Further information on our educational activities can be found in the relevant sections of this booklet.

For further information on the Rutland Water Park please see our website www.anglianwater.co.uk/leisure/water-parks/rutland

For further information on the Nature Reserve and the partnership between Anglian Water and the Wildlife Trust please see our website www.rutlandwater.org.uk.

For further information on the Rutland Water Osprey Project please see their website www.ospreys.org.uk/
Subjects Covered

We aim to cover as broad a range of subjects as possible, all with strong links to the national curriculum. While some of our structured days have clear subjects in mind it is worth noting that we can offer a range of customisable days to suit your needs. See the section on bespoke days for further information on this.

We can provide teaching to all ages in the following subjects:

- Biology
- Conservation
- Environmental Science
- Ecology
- Geography
- Travel and Tourism

The environment of the Reservoir makes it an ideal place for learners to gain inspiration for the arts and is an ideal ground to gain ideas for

- Creative writing
- Drawing
- Design and Technology
- Ceramics
- Poetry
INSPIRING GENERATIONS
1: Water Day

Information

Water Days can be run throughout the year.
Times are 10am - 2pm
Suitable for Key Stage 2 and above.
Maximum numbers: 60
Transport is needed all day.
Cost: Free (free of charge to pre booked school, college and university groups)

Learning Outcomes

- The history of Rutland Water
- The water cycle
- Where our drinking water comes from
- How we store it
- The problems caused by not having clean drinking water
- The importance of water for wildlife

Day Plan

The day starts out with a walk across the reservoir’s dam where we look at what a reservoir is and why it was constructed in Rutland. We also look at the other uses of the reservoir and discuss the effect that building it had on the lives of local people.
From here we return to the Centre and watch a short (10min) DVD on the problems faced by people living in third world countries in obtaining clean and safe drinking water, and the effects that not having clean water has on their lives. This is followed up with a water cleaning exercise, where pupils are asked to work filter a bucket of dirty water, leaving a bottle of clear water.
We also visit the hides where we look at the value of water for conservation and the birds that rely on water to live.

If you wish to shop during lunch pupils will need to bring about £3.00. We can also arrange for the class to be given ice creams - please let us know well in advance if you want ice cream.
2: Reservoir Day

Information

Reservoir Days can be run throughout the year.
Times are 10am - 2pm
Suitable for Key Stage 2 and above
Maximum numbers: 30
Transport is required all day.
Cost: Free (free of charge to pre booked school, college and university groups)

Learning Outcomes

- History of the reservoir
- How a reservoir operates
- The different users of a reservoir
- Potential conflicts

The reservoir days are ideal for geography projects and field work.

Day Plan

The day starts with a visit to the Dam, Fishing Lodge and Water Sports Centre where students make notes on each location write and description of the activities that take place there. We then return to the Birdwatching Centre to look at the value of water for wildlife and its use as a conservation tool. We also discuss how zoning the reservoir has alleviated potential conflict areas.

Pupils are then provided with a map/maps to plan their own reservoir, choosing the most suitable site and planning to run a range of activities and events with causing undue conflict. Note the mapping exercise can be carried out either at AWBC or back in the classroom depending on time available on the day

If you wish to shop during lunch pupils will need to bring about £3.00. We can also arrange for the class to be given ice creams - please let us know well in advance if you want ice cream.
3: Habitat Day

Information

Run from mid May until the end of the summer term
Times are 10am - 2pm
Suitable for Early Years and above
Maximum Numbers: 45
Cost: Free (free of charge to pre booked school, college and university groups)

Learning Outcomes

- Learn about the different animals that live in the different habitats
- Identify aquatic life
- Identify woodland creatures
- Identify bird species found on the reserve
- Older groups use keys and learn about adaptation and look at how different species have evolved to live in different habitats.

Day Plan

Depending on the numbers, the group is split into two or three groups that carousel the activities.
The morning will consist of two activities, with a break in between.

The afternoon session is shorter with just one activity to complete.

During the Birdwatching section we will look for homes of different animals as we explore the reserve.

If you wish to shop during lunch pupils will need to bring about £3.00. We can also arrange for the class to be given ice creams - please let us know well in advance if you want ice cream.
4: Seasons Days

Information

Autumn Season Day from September to November
Winter Season Day from December to February
Spring/Summer Season Days from March to July
Start 10am—2pm.
Suitable for Key Stage 1 and above
Maximum Numbers 45
Cost: Free (free of charge to pre booked school, college and university groups)

Learning Outcomes

- The changing seasons
- Learn about habitats in different seasons
- Learn how animals adapt to change
- Hibernation and migration

Day Plan

Seasons days are a three part series focussing on the way the first visit would be done in Autumn to coincide with the start of the new school year, with two subsequent visits to the reserve, one in winter and one in summer.
On each visit children are encouraged to pay close attention to the surrounding, at the start of each subsequent visit we recap and recall the changes they have noted from the last time they were on the reserve.

Autumn: Visits Between September and November - The Autumn visit focuses on the preparation animals need to undergo to survive the winter.
Winter: Visits between January and March. - The winter visit focus on the birds we see in winter on the reserve.
Spring/Summer: Visits between April and June. - These follow the Habitat day format

If you wish to shop during lunch pupils will need to bring about £3.00. We can also arrange for the class to be given ice creams - please let us know well in advance if you want ice cream.
5: Optional Extras

These optional extras can be fitted into day plans and are chargeable to cover the costs of the materials.

**Build a Habitat Box:**
Make a Bird Box, Bat Box or Bug Box
£8 per box
Takes around 30-45 minutes. Can be made individually or in small groups.

**Make a Bird Feeder:**
Make a Bird Feeder
£1 per feeder
Takes around 20-25 minutes. Ideal to be made individually.

**Bird Ringing:**
An expert will be brought in to carry out a bird ringing demonstration for the class.
£15 for the session.
Takes around 30-45 minutes, and is weather dependant.

**Willow Weaving:**
Simple and easy projects will be made out of willow which the class will see growing on the reserve. Items like stars, snails and hearts can be taken home. At Christmas decorations can also be made.
£3 per person participating.
Takes around 45 minutes.

**Staff Refreshments:**
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits can be provided for staff at a cost of £2.70 per head.
UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES
6. Beach, Golf and Games

Information

From March to July
Start 10am—2pm.
Maximum Numbers: 60
Cost: £5 per child
Location: Sykes Lane
Suitable for Key Stage 1 and above

Learning Outcomes

- Learn to work as a team
- Communication and critical thinking skills
- Learn about the reservoir
- Outdoor exercise

Day Plan

A selection of the following will be completed on the day, depending on numbers and your wishes.
- Mini Golf
- Visit the Dam
- Sandcastle competition
- Sand sculptures
- Team Games
- History of the Reservoir
- Water activities
- Building a reservoir

This can be a day of outdoor games and team working, or learning about the location on site.

If you wish to shop during lunch pupils will need to bring about £3.00. We can also arrange for the class to be given ice creams - please let us know well in advance if you want ice cream.
7. Bushcraft

Information
Available all year
Start 10am—2pm.
Maximum Numbers: 30
Cost: £5 per child
Suitable for Key Stage 2 and above
Location: Barnsdale Wood

Learning Outcomes
- Learn to work as a team
- Communication and critical thinking skills
- Learn to identify animals and trees
- Safe use of tools

Day Plan
A selection of the following will be completed on the day, depending on numbers and your wishes.
- Den building
- Tree ID
- Fire lighting
- Wood Carving
- Campfire Cookery

This day is based entirely outdoors, and so pupils will need to wear appropriate clothing for the weather and activities.

Due to the Nature of the location and activities, there may be times when the full itinerary cannot be completed due to weather conditions.

Please inform staff of any dietary requirements as things like Marshmallows may be consumed on the day.
Information

October to March
Start 10am—2pm.
Maximum Numbers: 20
Cost: £5 per child
Suitable for Key Stage 3 and above
Transport may be required all day, depending on location of activities that are being completed.

Learning Outcomes

- Learn to work as a team
- Communication and critical thinking skills
- Learn to identify animals and trees
- Safe use of tools
- Outdoor Exercise

Day Plan
A selection of the following will be completed on the day, depending on numbers and your wishes.
- Coppicing
- Tree Felling
- Scrub Clearance
- Hedge Laying
- Fencing

This day is based entirely outdoors, and so pupils will need to wear appropriate clothing for the weather and activities.

Due to the Nature of the location and activities, there may be times when the full itinerary cannot be completed due to weather conditions.
Bespoke Days

We are always looking to expand our education programme and are very flexible in our approach, we will be happy to discuss any special request you may have. If we are able to accommodate you we will!

Biology, Conservation, Environmental Science, Ecology, Geography, Travel and Tourism, Creative Writing, Drawing, Design and Technology, Ceramics, Poetry are all subjects that can be carried out. Please feel free to contact us to discuss your needs.

Outreach

If you can’t come to use we can come to you!

Most of our lessons are very adaptable and can be delivered in the classroom or in the school grounds. Our schools outreach sessions usually last about an hour per group/school and can cover any subject of your choice. The activities we bring and the way we deliver the session will depend on the time of year, what you as the teacher wants to get out of the lesson and the resources available at individual schools.

We may for example be able to carry out bug hunting and pond dipping in your grounds if you have a wildlife garden and pond on site. We are also to bring birdfeeder making/bird table making to your school should you wish.

Of course you can follow up on any visits by coming to visit us at later date.
Work Experience

Rutland Water Park Work Experience

Rutland Water Park offers students a comprehensive work experience programme that covers all aspects of working on a multi faceted public Water Park.

Work experience placements are either one or two weeks long. During this time students will spend time working with all of the Reservoir teams. They will experience work in the Visitor Centres, with the Water sports staff, the Education Team and the Rangers.

Due to high demand for work experience placements we run a policy of interviewing all potential work experience candidates to ensure that a candidate who has a real interest in this area of work does miss out. We can also tailor the experience to fit with the candidates most passionate area.

For further information on our work experience programme please contact one of the Education Team.

Email: education@rutlandwater.org.uk
Tel: 01572 653042

Rutland Water Nature Reserve Work Experience

Rutland Water Nature Reserve offers students a comprehensive work experience programme that covers all aspects of working on a nature reserve.

Work experience placements are either one or two weeks long. During this time students will spend time working with all of the nature reserve teams. They will experience work in the Visitor Centre, with the Osprey Project, the Education Team and the outdoor Conservation team.

Due to high demand for work experience placements we run a policy of interviewing all potential work experience candidates to ensure that a candidate who has a real interest in this area of work does miss out.

For further information on our work experience programme please contact Sarah Proud.

Email: volunteering@rutlandwater.org.uk
Tel: 01572 720049
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anglianwatereducation@rutlandrutlandwater.org.uk