

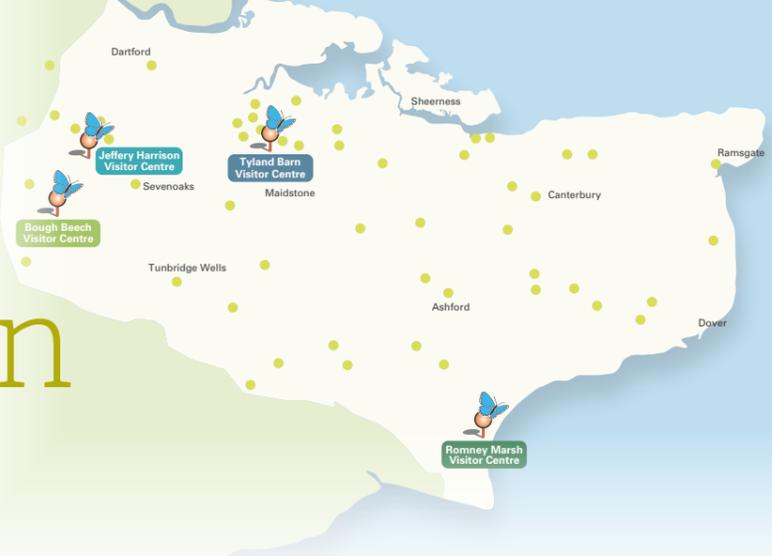


Learning Programmes and Activities



Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future

> Our Education Centres



> Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve and Visitor Centre

Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3DH

This wonderful site consists of five stunning lakes, a mixed habitat of ponds, seasonally flooded pools, reedbed and woodland. A spectacular site for birds, the wetland and woodland habitats also support a diverse community of plants, fungi and animals.

Of particular interest for visiting groups is the tranquil Elemental Garden where much of the teaching for younger groups takes place. A cottage offers undercover teaching space and there are additional teaching areas within the site. The Centre houses a range of engaging wildlife displays and touch tables. The site has toilet facilities and a small tea bar. Coaches can drop off groups at the Visitor Centre entrance and on-site parking is available.



> Bough Beech Reserve and Visitor Centre

Winkhurst Green, Ide Hill, TN14 6LD

The 19th century Oast House and surrounding reserve at Bough Beech offers one of our most enchanting and tranquil locations. Adjacent to the Bough Beech Reservoir, the site boasts a range of interesting habitats, including a pond and an ancient orchard.

There is an open-sided cart shed for undercover teaching and lunches, along with teaching space within the Oast itself (although access for those with mobility difficulties is restricted).

Bough Beech has first-class toilet facilities and a picnic area. Access for large vehicles is restricted and so it is recommended that coaches drop off at the site entrance or, alternatively, minibuses are the preferred method of transport.



> Tyland Barn Visitor Centre and Nature Park

Tyland Lane, Sandling, Maidstone, ME14 3BD

Located in the centre of the County, the nature park at Tyland Barn has been specially designed to represent – in miniature – the diverse range of habitats to be found in Kent. With a large pond, meadow, chalk bank, hedge, scrub and even a shingle beach, the site is a very flexible location for a range of fascinating studies.

Visitors to Tyland Barn can enjoy the benefits of an indoor classroom, external teaching and picnic shelter, café and toilet facilities. Coaches can drop off groups inside the grounds.



> Romney Marsh Visitor Centre and Nature Reserve

New Romney, TN28 8AY

The 23 acre reserve at Romney Warren offers an interesting teaching environment, with dune grassland, willow scrub and seasonal ponds. A replica 'Lookers' Hut' adds a useful historical dimension to a site visit.

The site has an award-winning Visitor Centre, with many eco-friendly features, toilet facilities and parking for visiting coaches.

> How to book and pricing

To discuss your visit or make a booking, please contact:

Education Team

Email: education@kentwildlife.org.uk

Phone: 01622 662012

	Half day	Full day
Sept-March (Off peak)	£3.25	£4.25
Minimum charge 'per class' (Off peak)	£65.00	£85.00
April-Aug (Peak)	£4.25	£5.75
Minimum charge 'per class'	£85.00	£115.00

> Risk Assessments

The team at Kent Wildlife Trust are fully aware of the pressures faced by teachers when planning an outdoor learning experience. To help eliminate the stress, risk assessments for all our activities are available on our website and a helpful checklist is provided with your booking form.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. We're here to ensure your pupils enjoy their visit and stay safe.

> 'Explore-a-Story' Days

This enchanting programme offers the perfect introduction to environmental study for pupils at Key Stage 1 and 2. With a range of titles to choose from, the day offers a lively mix of activities designed to bring the stories to life.

Available titles include: *The Little Red Hen, Town Mouse and Country Mouse, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Bad Tempered Ladybird, The Tadpole's Promise, Crunching Munching Caterpillar.*

Following the introductory story time session, pupils will enjoy a series of themed activities:

The Tale Trail – A fun nature trail, exploring links between the story and the Centre's wildlife areas.

Mini-beast Hunt – A chance to track down and catch insects 'in the wild' and complete a Spotter's Guide.

Make and Do – Depending on the chosen story, pupils will have the chance to take part in a range of fun art and craft activities, using natural materials where possible.

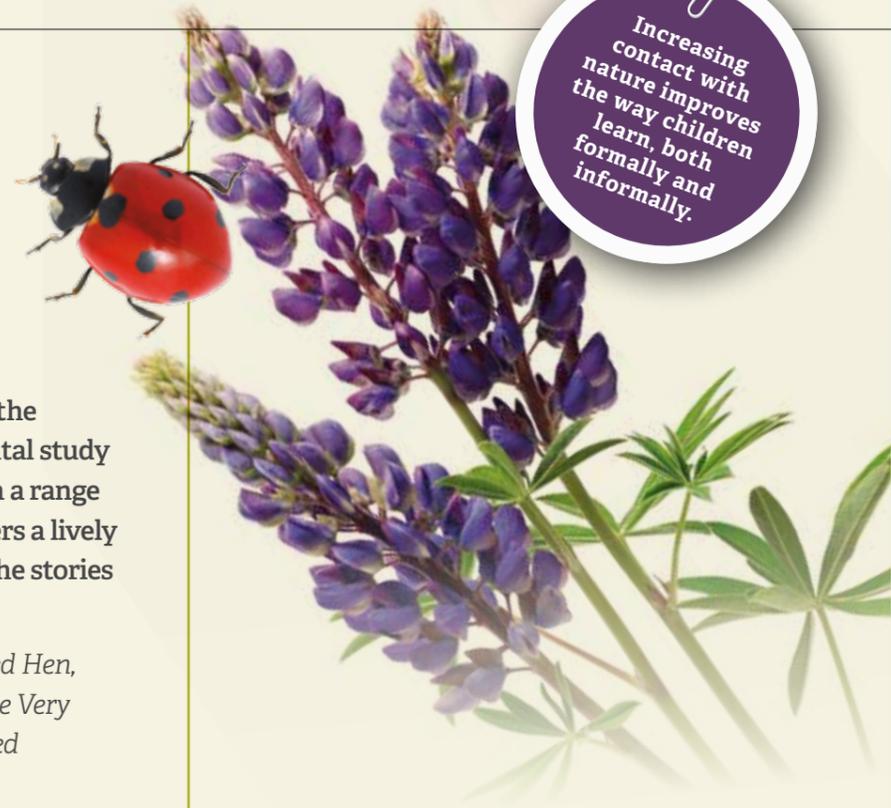
Fun and Games – Carefully designed to complement the selected story, our games sessions help pupils to let off steam as they learn.

With topical songs to sing along the way, our story days are guaranteed to inspire and excite budding nature explorers.

Age Range: Pre-school, Key Stage 1 and 2

Locations: Tyland Barn, Sevenoaks, Bough Beech.

Duration: Full day



Increasing contact with nature improves the way children learn, both formally and informally.

> Perfect Plants

Let children explore the wonderful world of Fabulous Flowers or Tremendous Trees created for Key Stage 1 and 2. They will learn all they need to know about green plants, the building blocks of habitats through exciting activities, games and crafts.

Fabulous Flowers – Explore the wildflower meadows investigating flower structures and their purpose, the role of insects in pollination and the plant life cycle from seed to seed

Tremendous Trees – Learn to identify trees using leaf shapes, nuts, seeds and flowers through fun games. Carrying out tree shakes allows students to appreciate the host of organisms the trees support and their position in the food chain. Will they manage to build their own tremendous tree at the end of the day with the information they have gathered?

Age Range: Pre-school, Key Stage 1 and 2

Locations: Tyland Barn, Sevenoaks, Bough Beech

Duration: Full day

> Dipping Detectives

A chance to discover and identify what lies beneath the water's surface

Based around one of the most fascinating habitats, this half-day programme of pond exploration is an ever-popular session for pupils at Key Stage 1 and 2. The programme begins with an overview of ponds and their formation, followed by a practical dipping activity*.

Using hand lenses and pictorial keys, pupils will work together to identify their finds and learn more about the different ways they live, breath and move. By closely studying their finds, pupils will consider their place in the food chain and the ways in which they have adapted to their underwater environment. At our Tyland Barn Centre, the group can use our special video microscope to study a selection of the creatures in close detail, considering their place in the food chain and the ways in which they have adapted to their underwater environment.

This session is very popular, so early booking is advised.

Age Range: Key Stage 1 and 2

Locations: Tyland Barn, Sevenoaks, Bough Beech

Duration: Half day / Full day if combined with 'Magical Minibeasts'

* Due to the size of the equipment, an alternative tabletop dipping activity is available for very young groups.

> Magical Minibeasts

Often booked in conjunction with 'Dipping Detectives', this half-day habitat investigation offers guaranteed fun for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils of all abilities.

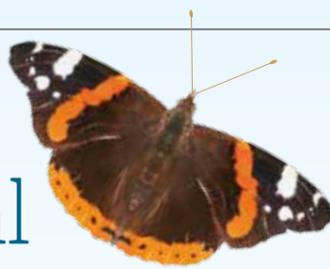
After an introduction to their equipment, the young nature explorers set off into the 'wild' to seek out and capture unsuspecting invertebrates. By closely studying and identifying their finds, pupils will discover how the different creatures have adapted to their habitats and where they fit in the food chain.

Pupils at Key Stage 2 will be encouraged to compare and contrast a range of different habitats, undertaking a more detailed investigation into the plants and animals found within them.

Age Range: Key Stage 1 and 2

Locations: Tyland Barn, Sevenoaks, Bough Beech

Duration: Half day / Full day if combined with Dipping Detectives



Learning outdoors together with Kent Wildlife Trust is fun.

> Rock Stars!

This highly practical session encourages pupils to handle and sort rock samples, discovering where they fit in the rock cycle and how soil is made. A fun trail around the Centre's wildlife areas will be undertaken to observe how rocks become broken down into soil.

Having grasped the concepts of erosion and weathering, pupils will then be well placed to investigate soil and to understand why compost is important for growing plants. Making soil from sand or chalk is always a popular element of the programme, as is comparing soil samples.

By the end of this lively, hands-on programme, participants will have learned to recognise and group rocks according to their characteristics; to understand that rocks are made of minerals which are broken down by the weathering process and that soil is made from minerals and dead, decaying animals and plants.

With a strong emphasis on practical learning, this programme is the perfect way to explore the amazing world beneath our feet.

Age Ranges: Key Stage 2

Location: Tyland Barn, Sevenoaks

Duration: Half day / Full day if combined with 'River Study' at Sevenoaks



Connecting children with nature and one another.

> River Study

Our Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve is the perfect setting for this interactive day of physical and biological investigations. The programme begins with a consideration of how the river has developed and how man has altered its pathway.

Using measuring tools and flow meters, pupils will investigate the profile of the river bed and the flow of water at different points. They will also undertake a survey and investigate the results, considering the adaptations that help the organisms to thrive in the moving water.

By the end of the programme, participants will be able to identify some of the different river habitats and the organisms that live within them; appreciate the interdependence of people and rivers; and understand river survey techniques and their application.

For secondary students, the river habitat provides an ideal opportunity to explore the interdependence of organisms, including food webs, as well as considering how organisms affect, and are affected by their environment.

Age Range: Key Stages 2,3 and 4

Location: Sevenoaks

Duration: Full day

> Forest Schools

Exciting learning opportunities in a wild, outdoor setting. Students develop skills, increase knowledge, understanding and respect for their environment and re-engage with nature. Forest School enhances personal, social and emotional skills, whilst also supporting the National Curriculum.

Forest School fits all learning styles and encourages and engages students of all ages and abilities. Activities support a wide range of development areas, including:

- Confidence
- Health
- Literacy
- Communication
- Resilience
- Numeracy
- Problem solving
- Handling risks
- Science
- Teamwork
- Initiative
- Geography

We also offer options for outdoor education, based on Forest School principals, including Teacher Workshops.

All programmes can be adapted to fit your group's abilities or needs. Contact us to discuss your requirements.

Forest School on Kent Wildlife Trust Reserves (Recommended min. 6 weekly sessions)

Explore and develop skills over a number of weekly sessions at a woodland reserve.

Forest School Outreach Programme in School Grounds (Recommended min. 6 weekly sessions)

Through a number of sessions, students develop skills in a familiar setting, with activities focused on their local environment.

Forest School – Experience Days (One-off sessions)

A perfect 'taster day' for pupils or teaching staff to discover Forest School, held at our woodland reserves across Kent.

Age ranges: All

Duration: Full/Half day

Cost of Forest School sessions on Kent Wildlife Trust reserves:

Full day £350 - subsidised rate for school groups - £200

Half day £220 - subsidised rate for school groups - £120

Maximum 18 students per session

Outreach rates are higher

Contact: Kathryn Barton, Community Engagement Officer, Forest School

Email: forestschool@kentwildlife.org.uk

Phone: 07717 367944

Nature is in trouble and it needs your help.



Greater-spotted Woodpecker © Mike Shelle

> Bringing The Outside In

For those unable to benefit from a visit to one of our education centres, Kent Wildlife Trust has developed a range of outreach two hour opportunities that will bring the wild to you.

We are happy to develop workshops on request, simply contact us to discuss your requirements.

Cost: £150 per class

> Wild about Gardens Award Scheme

The Scheme is free to enter for any wildlife friendly garden in Kent however small or large. What's more, your garden doesn't need to be finished! Our friendly team of volunteers are happy to visit a work in progress and will offer advice and encouragement. They particularly like visiting schools where the children or students have been involved in the development of the garden.

The closing date for schools is 31 May to allow sufficient time for a visit before the end of term. Entry forms can be downloaded from our website from January onwards, or paper copies are available from any of our Visitor Centres.

If you would like more information please visit our website or call 01622 662012



Head Office: Kent Wildlife Trust, Tyland Barn, Sandling, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3BD
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