



# Young Ranger

## AWARD SCHEME

The award scheme is a pilot residential week which is available at a greatly discounted rate on these dates in 2012:

June 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

July 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>

September 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

November 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

If you would like your class to discover more about special places, please contact Brancaster Millennium Activity Centre, tel. 01485 210719, or email [brancaster@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:brancaster@nationaltrust.org.uk).

### What is the aim of the scheme?

The National Trust was established over 100 years ago to care for special places, for everyone to enjoy. The aim of the Young Ranger Award Scheme at BMAC is to re-connect young people with the outdoors and show them how to protect their own “special place” whether it’s a community garden, local pond or school wildlife area.

### What is the scheme about?

The Award comprises four outdoor activity units: Discover, Explore, Investigate and Protect. When all four units have been completed, participants will receive a Young Ranger Acorn Award. If, upon return to home, participants can show that they have established and / or protected their own “special place” they can apply for their Young Ranger Oak Leaf Award.



### What is a “special place”?

Places are special for a whole variety of reasons; what is “special” to one person may not be “special” to another. In the introductory Discovery unit, participants explore this topic, using the National Trust’s Brancaster Estate as a case study. In the final Protect unit, participants can nominate a “special place” in their community to look after in the future.



### How do young people take part in the scheme?

The scheme is being piloted with school groups taking part in a 5 day residential visit at Brancaster Millennium Activity Centre. At the end of their stay, the Young Rangers will receive their first award.

## What activities can be chosen?

Schools can choose from a variety of exciting, outdoor activities to complete each unit. **Five** optional activities may be chosen from the Explore / Investigate units, with the Discover and Protect units delivered to all schools.

# Discover

This unit comprises an uphill ramble to Barrow Common so that pupils and staff can view and sketch the whole National Trust estate at Brancaster. This encompasses views of the saltmarsh, harbour, dunes, creeks and islands. The question “What makes places special?” is explored from this fantastic vantage point.

# Explore

Schools can choose from these adventurous activities to explore Brancaster more fully:

**raft-building\***  
**kayaking\***  
**sailing**  
**cycling**  
**coastal safari**  
**orienteering**

At least one activity must be chosen from this unit.

\* Apr – Oct only

# Investigate

These activities enable pupils to investigate different aspects of the National Trust estate and its surrounds in more detail:

**sand dune study**  
**woodland study**  
**Branodunum**  
**coastal processes**  
**village study**

At least one activity from this list must be chosen

# Protect

Throughout the week, pupils will be gathering clues and information about how the National Trust protects and cares for its “special places”. Groups will also meet the Brancaster warden and undertake a practical conservation task (eg. litter pick on the beach, weeding of newly planted hedgerows). On the final morning, pupils can apply their new found skills and knowledge to plan how they could protect their own special place back at school or home.



### Can any evening activities be chosen?

Each evening (except Monday), pupils will briefly share any evidence or clues they may have gathered about how National Trust protects and cares for its “Special Place”. After this Round-Up, and the completion of any Eco-Ranger duties (see below), an activity from the following list may be undertaken:

- Go Green in School Grounds
- Bat Detectives (with the Warden) - **NEW**
- Web of Life
- Frame It! (making and decorating fabric photo frames) - **NEW**

### How is it different to a “traditional” residential stay at BMAC?

- The emphasis on fun learning and adventure will remain exactly the same, but there will be an additional learning outcome for each activity, based on the unit being undertaken.
- “Go Green” and “Stay Green” will no longer be taught as set units. Sustainability topics (eg. climate change, recycling, energy use, etc) will be delivered through the **Eco-Ranger** activities. (Each pupil is assigned an Eco-Ranger duty for the week – this may be switching off lights, collecting and gathering recyclable waste and placing in recycling bins, weighing the waste or managing the garden.)
- Pupils will receive a **Logbook** at the start of the week and a **Young Ranger Acorn Award** at the end of their stay. They will have the opportunity to extend and share their skills and knowledge whilst working towards their Young Ranger Oak Leaf Award.
- Pupils undertake a **practical conservation task** with the Brancaster Warden as one of the activities.
- Instead of Groups A,B and C the Young Ranger group names will reflect the coastal theme - **Oysters, Cockles and Whelks**.



### Where can I get further information?

Please contact Katherine Tofield (Deputy Centre Manager) or Emilie Denman (Assistant Learning Officer) at BMAC:

T: 01485 210719

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