



**a million voices for nature**

**March 2012**

**Dear Teacher/Science Co-ordinator**

**Discover the magic of the Broads with Europe's biggest wildlife conservation charity**

My name is Lee Cozens, Lead Field Teacher at RSPB Strumpshaw Fen Nature Reserve (near Brundall) and I am delighted to invite your school to visit our beautiful reserve in 2012 as part of your science curriculum.

Following a successful trial of field teaching at the reserve last year, we are very excited to welcome schools to this magical Broadland setting for an inspirational learning experience outside the classroom. *If your school previously took part in our field-teaching scheme at Whitlingham Country Park, we hope you will join us at Strumpshaw Fen this year as the Whitlingham scheme is currently on hold to upgrade the educational facilities.*

**RSPB Living Classrooms at Strumpshaw Fen  
offers a range of outdoor education programmes for EYFS, KS1 and KS2.**

Our experienced team of professional field teachers is keen to share the enthusiasm and passion we have for outdoor learning and I would be delighted to discuss our programme of activities with you and organise a memorable day for pupils and staff alike.

Strumpshaw Fen is only 6 miles away from Norwich, but it is worlds away from the hustle and bustle of modern life: a 'breathing space for the soul' as Ted Ellis would say.



## **Field Trip Programmes**

With an inspiring range of activities we can help you plan your summer field trip and target appropriate aspects of the science curriculum. We aim to make your visit as exciting and rewarding for the children and teachers as possible. We have a dedicated space for outdoor learning in three distinct Broads habitats, a good range of resources, and an amazing range of wildlife to discover. Our programmes aim to be flexible to ensure we inspire pupils and meet your requirements. All our activities are risk assessed, curriculum-linked and carefully designed to complement the work done in schools.

## EYFS & KS1

Children are offered first-hand experiences of natural places, creatures and habitats through a series of innovative sensory activities, as well as opportunities to pond dip, minibeast in different habitats, and birdwatch. These activities are linked to outcomes for EYFS and KS1.

## KS2

Our programmes are linked to the national curriculum and offer a range of activities linked to the National Curriculum including life processes and living things, habitat exploration, plants and animals in the local environment, helping plants grow, using keys to identify plants and animals and identifying food chains.

In addition we aim to give pupils a sense of place and allow opportunities to explore some iconic Broads habitats and landscapes.



## Outreach Programme

To help your class get ready for their Strumpshaw Fen field trip we can organise a pre visit where we provide a range of preparatory activities and games to get everyone inspired. We can also organise post Strumpshaw Fen visits to follow up their practical learning experiences and extend their wildlife knowledge. Either way we can be adaptable to meet your needs, offering environmental games and outdoor activities.

We can also offer a varied outreach programme throughout the Spring and Autumn terms, and can work with whole year groups through School Assemblies, or with individual classes. Our exciting range of wildlife topics including Robins, Owls, Sumatra Rain Forest, Bird Beaks & Adaptation, Schools Birdwatching and many more....



## Are you getting the most out of your Wildlife Area?

The RSPB can offer you practical support and ideas to ensure you and the children get the very best out of your wildlife area. We can visit your site and provide a range of KS1 & KS2 activities to suit your wildlife area.

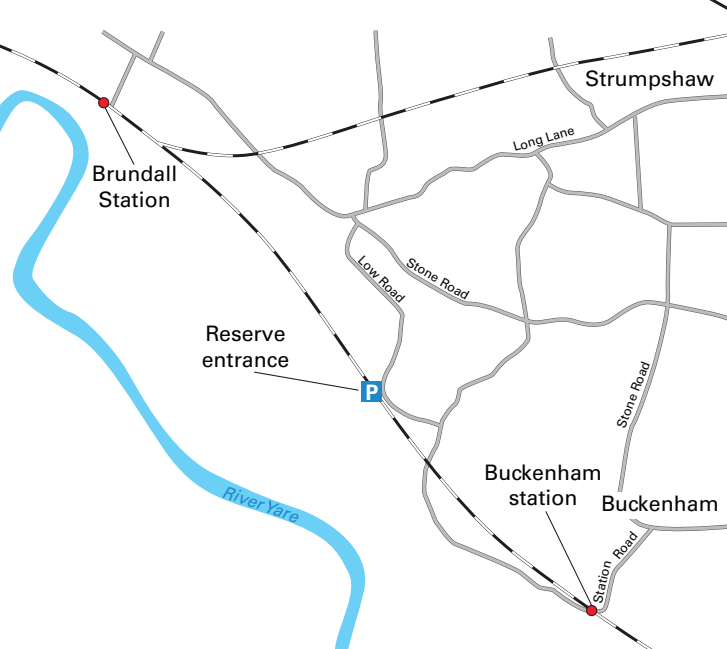
We believe that children should have regular and quality access to wildlife throughout the year and we would be keen to help your school explore this aspiration.

## What is the cost?

We do not aim to make a profit. Our charges are to cover the cost of running the schemes. A visit to Strumpshaw Fen costs £5.10 per child for a full day and £3.80 for a half day. Please call to discuss outreach costs.

## Further Information

To find out more about environmental education with the RSPB and at Strumpshaw Fen, please phone RSPB Field Teacher, Mrs Lee Cozens on 01603 715191 or email [lee.cozens@rspb.org.uk](mailto:lee.cozens@rspb.org.uk)



## How to find us

### RSPB Strumpshaw Fen

Low Road, Strumpshaw, Norfolk NR13 4HS.

#### Directions:

From the A47 between Norwich and Great Yarmouth, turn into the village of Brundall. Drive through Brundall and under the railway bridge. Turn right into Stone Road, then Low Road. The reserve car park and entrance are along Low Road.

[www.rspb.org.uk/strumpshawfen](http://www.rspb.org.uk/strumpshawfen)

### Facilities

- Visitor reception
- Large education tent
- Pond dipping area with platform
- Toilets
- Picnic area
- Viewing hides



## Find out more

**For more details or to book a visit,** please e-mail [strumpshaw@rspb.org.uk](mailto:strumpshaw@rspb.org.uk) or call the reserve office on 01603 715191.

**Other RSPB resources** – for more information, please contact our Education Team on 01603 661662.



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Images: pond dipping by Eleanor Bentall, mute swan by Mike Richards, swallowtail by John Markham and water vole by Ben Hall (all [rspb-images.com](http://rspb-images.com)).

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no 207076, Scotland no SC037654 330-1389-11-12



# LIVING CLASSROOMS

## Strumpshaw Fen



RSPB Wildlife Explorers  
is the junior membership  
of the Royal Society for  
the Protection of Birds



# LIVING CLASSROOMS



## Strumpshaw Fen

**Living Classrooms** is an exciting programme of school visits designed to bring learning to life. Children will be able to explore nature for themselves by studying at first-hand the birds, animals, plants and habitats at Strumpshaw Fen. Led by experienced field teachers, the half- or full-day visits are carefully crafted to open eyes and minds to the captivating world around us.

**Strumpshaw Fen** is only 10 miles from Norwich City Centre, with fantastic facilities to enable your pupils to explore a diverse range of habitats. Pupils can explore woodland, broadland and meadowland habitats, in areas designated specifically for educational use and within easy walking distance. The RSPB's field teaching programme aims to provide pupils with a wildlife experience they will remember and a learning adventure that is fun, hands-on and educational.

## What you say...

"Super day. Very enjoyable for all concerned. Excellent venue."

"The timing and selection of activities were excellent. The teachers related exceptionally well to the children."

"We all had the best time and would like to thank all staff for making our visit so enjoyable and interesting."

All our programmes are linked to the National Curriculum for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and 2, and are delivered by trained field teachers. We can also provide tailored programmes for older pupils, including secondary schools.

## Programme

We can offer an excellent range of cross-curricular activities to meet your class's specific needs. We can adapt all sessions to the ages and key stages of your pupils. If the topic you would like to study is not listed, please ask and we will do our best to provide it. Please contact us to find out more.

The programme is updated from time to time, so please contact [strumpshaw@rspb.org.uk](mailto:strumpshaw@rspb.org.uk) for the latest information and more details about courses.

### Children can learn about:

- Life cycles of pond creatures and minibeasts
- Bird adaptations and design
- Food chains
- Observation and comparison
- Biodiversity and conservation
- Climate change

### Foundation Stage Curriculum and Key Stage 1

#### First nature

Our programme for 4-7 year olds helps pupils gain first-hand experience of natural places, creatures and habitats through a series of innovative sensory activities. We offer pond dipping in a secure area where pupils can explore the Broads wildlife from our platform.

### Key Stage 2

#### Second nature

Our programme for 8-12 year olds is designed to enable children to discover the variety of creatures and habitats at Strumpshaw. Pupils can explore and compare woodland and meadow habitats, hunt for minibeasts, investigate the water cycle and enjoy birdwatching using binoculars and a telescope.

### When can we visit?

We are open in the spring, summer and autumn for weekday visits.

### We can also offer:

Visits to your school. Our experienced field teachers offer a varied programme of topics including helping you get the most out of your school's wildlife area.

Please contact us on 01603 715191 or at [strumpshaw@rspb.org.uk](mailto:strumpshaw@rspb.org.uk) for more information or to discuss your topics.

