

# **LIVING** CLASSROOMS

## **Whitlingham Country Park**

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 Whitlingham Country Park. 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.

Whitlingham Country Park is less than two 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...

'Fantastic day, all practical activities were relevant and engaging.'

'A super day – everyone was kept very busy. The range of activities appealed to all styles of learning. This trip couldn't be faulted.'

Our educational programme has been designated Category A by Norfolk County Council. All our programmes are linked to the National Curriculum for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and 2, and are delivered by trained field teachers.

## **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 check www.rspb.org.uk/teaching 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

### 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 fenced area where pupils can explore the Broads wildlife from our platform or from an established old cattle trough teeming with wildlife.

#### 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 Whitlingham Country Park. 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, available for Foundation stage, KS1 and KS2. Our experienced field teachers offer a varied programme of topics including helping you get the most out of your school's wildlife area.

Please visit www.rspb.org.uk/teaching for more information and contact us to discuss which topics you would like us to cover.

## How to find us

#### **Whitlingham Country Park**

Whitlingham Country Park, Whitlingham Lane, Trowse, Norwich, NR14 8TR.

#### **Directions**

From the A47 Southern Bypass, turn off at Trowse, follow signs to Trowse village and turn left into Whitlingham Lane just before the village. Follow road until you reach the Old Barn.

### **Facilities**

- Visitor centre
- Education room
- · Fenced pond dipping area with platform
- · Toilets with disabled facilities
- Fenced picnic area
- Disabled access to all field teaching area
- Café area

## Find out more

For more details about the visits described in this leaflet, please visit the website below.

To book a visit or to discuss the programme or any special needs, please call the Field Teacher on 01603 429901 or 01603 660066.

Other RSPB resources – for more information, please call the Education Officer on 01603 660066. www.rspb.org.uk/teaching

