

SCHOOL VISITS

We offer schools:

- ✦ a range of exciting activities linked to the National Curriculum and designed to encourage empathy with and understanding of the natural environment
- ✦ clear itineraries tailored to the needs of each group, including pupils with special needs
- ✦ friendly, trained staff
- ✦ diverse habitats for birds and other wildlife that can be watched from boardwalks, viewing platforms and hides on the reserve
- ✦ undercover lunching facilities
- ✦ information and interactive displays in our education and visitor centre, with its eco-friendly features, with power provided by a wind turbine
- ✦ ample parking with coach spaces
- ✦ ground-floor classroom with ramped access, audio loop and adapted toilet.



Booking a visit

The Education Centre is open to school parties throughout the year, Tuesday to Friday. Booking is essential and early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment.

The fee for groups is £3.50 per student per day for a maximum of 60 pupils (minimum daily rate £60). The fee includes two activity sessions and a self-guided trail, plus planning and help with risk assessments for the visit. There is no charge for accompanying adults. Teachers' preliminary visits are also free.

SCHOOL FRIENDS OF SCULTHORPE MOOR

Becoming a School Friend of Sculthorpe Moor costs £250 a year and includes:

- ✦ up to three visits to the reserve during the year with groups of students
- ✦ a visit into the school from the reserve's education staff or volunteers to run a workshop or give a talk
- ✦ regular information about events and activities on the reserve throughout the year
- ✦ free Adopt a Box subscription for the school.

SCULTHORPE MOOR EDUCATION CENTRE

Our Education and Visitor Centre at Sculthorpe Moor Community Nature Reserve, close to Fakenham, lies a few miles inland from the North Norfolk coast. It is just off the A148 King's Lynn to Fakenham road, opposite Sculthorpe village. Look out for brown tourist sign: 'Nature Reserve'.

For schools the centre is the base for exciting cross-curricular environmental education programmes, exploring the many habitats of the reserve and the traditional working practices that are maintaining its rich ecosystem. The award-winning reserve is recognised as nationally and internationally important for its special wetland wildlife.

Imaginative displays inside the centre introduce visitors to the special wildlife habitats, plants, birds and other animals of Sculthorpe Moor, as well as its fascinating history.

Contact details

For further information about the centre, its school visits programme and the Trust's after-school wildlife club for 8 to 12-year-olds – the Kestrel Club – contact:
The Hawk and Owl Trust Education Centre
Sculthorpe Moor Community Nature Reserve
Turf Moor Rd, Sculthorpe, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 9GN
01328 856788 leanne.thomas@hawkandowl.org
www.sculthorpemoor.org

EDUCATION WITH THE HAWK AND OWL TRUST

The Hawk and Owl Trust works to conserve wild birds of prey and their habitats. Owls, falcons, hawks, kites, harriers and other birds of prey are at the top of their food chains and so they are valuable natural indicators of the health of the environment.

One of the charity's key tasks is to increase knowledge and understanding of these magnificent birds and the impact humans have on the environment we share with them. To ensure their survival, we must safeguard the plants and animals that are part of their habitat.

As a focus for its educational activity for young people and others, the Trust runs two education centres – one at its Sculthorpe Moor Community Nature Reserve, the other at the Chiltern Open Air Museum, Buckinghamshire.



Education Centre Sculthorpe Moor, Norfolk

School visits



ADAPTATION WORKSHOP

(also available as an outreach workshop)

Identifying the features of birds of prey that make them well adapted for catching their food and living in different habitats. Considering some issues facing birds of prey and some conservation measures used to help them.



Curriculum links

Science KS2, KS3 & KS4: Investigative skills, Life processes, Humans and other animals, Variation and classification, Living things in their environment.

Geography KS2, KS3 & KS4: Knowledge and understanding of places, Environmental change and sustainable development. PSHE and Citizenship KS2, KS3 & KS4: Preparing to play an active role as citizens, Knowledge and understanding about becoming informed citizens.



PSHE TEAM-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

SHELTER BUILDING

Encouraging team-building and co-operative skills through constructing shelters made entirely from natural materials.

Curriculum links

Design and Technology All key stages

TRAILS AND ORIENTEERING

Developing way-finding skills, from simple trails for KS1 children to using a compass and map.

Curriculum links

Geography All key stages: Geographical enquiry and skills. Physical education KS2, KS3 & KS4: Outdoor and adventurous activities.

TEAM CHALLENGE

Combine these two activities for an exciting day's programme.

ICT

The education centre has data-logging equipment which can be used to incorporate aspects of the ICT curriculum into some of the activity sessions.

Curriculum links

ICT KS2, KS3 & KS4: Finding things out, Developing ideas, Exchanging and sharing information.

FIELDWORK

The nature reserve and Education Centre are available as venues for fieldwork and surveys for KS4 and A-level students.

Please contact the Hawk and Owl Trust's Education Manager to discuss potential projects.

HABITAT STUDIES: WOODLAND, GRASSLAND, REEDBED AND POND

Single habitats can be studied or two activity sessions used to compare different habitats. Identifying plants, looking for mini-beasts, pond dipping or sweep-netting in long grass. Making food chains linking the plants and animals in a habitat.

Curriculum links

Science All key stages: Investigative skills, Life processes, Humans and other animals, Green plants, Variation and classification, Living things in their environment.

Geography All key stages: Knowledge and understanding of places, Environmental change and sustainable development.

PSHE and Citizenship All key stages: Preparing to play an active role as citizens, Knowledge and understanding about becoming informed citizens.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Learn about how the landscape of the nature reserve changed in the past and how it is being managed now. See how the Education Centre uses sustainable materials and power generation to lessen the impact on the environment.

Curriculum links

Science All key stages: Living things in their environment, Energy resources and energy transfer.

Geography All key stages: Environmental change and sustainable development.

PSHE and Citizenship All key stages: Preparing to play an active role as citizens, Knowledge and understanding about becoming informed citizens.



BABY OWLS

Exploring a woodland habitat to discover more about tawny owls. Based on the story by Martin Waddell.

Curriculum links

Foundation: All six areas of learning.

Science KS1: Investigative skills, Life processes, Living things in their environment.

Geography KS1: Environmental change and sustainable development.

PSHE and Citizenship KS1: Preparing to play an active role as citizens.

OWL PELLET DISSECTION

(also available as an outreach workshop)

Investigating the contents of barn owl pellets to discover the prey items the birds eat and how this links to habitat needs.

Curriculum links

Science KS2, KS3 & KS4: Living things in their environment.

Geography KS2, KS3 & KS4: Knowledge and understanding of places, Environmental change and sustainable development.

PSHE and Citizenship KS2, KS3 & KS4: Preparing to play an active role as citizens, Knowledge and understanding about becoming informed citizens.



Aspects of the English, Maths, Art and Design, and Design and Technology curricula can all be studied through activities at the reserve. Contact the Education Manager to discuss tailor-made activities for your class or group.

BIRDS OF PREY ON SCULTHORPE MOOR RESERVE

Except for occasional special events, there are no captive birds at the centre. However, Sculthorpe Moor is home to wild owls, marsh harriers (right, photographed over the reserve) and other birds of prey. Cameras, linked to a viewing screen inside the centre, give year-round insight into wildlife activity on the reserve, where habitats range from reeds, drainage dykes, river bank and pond to woodland.



Project part financed by the European Union

Photos © Hawk and Owl Trust, Graham Corney, Martin Hayward Smith, Ian McGuire, Gary Smith