

Holt Hall Field Studies Centre

ACTIVE SCIENCE

Holt Hall grounds are the ideal setting to inspire and engage your pupils in science. Develop their observation and scientific questioning skills through hands-on investigations. Compare plants in different areas, explore the number of prickles on a holly leaf, make and use keys, select a planting site in the walled garden and help a special animal to find a place to hibernate.

MINIBEAST MAGIC

What creatures are to be found under the leaves of Holt Hall's woodland? What is living beneath the surface of the lake? Children use keys to discover a fascinating world of invertebrates and through some very close observation find out what they eat and how they are suited to where they live. This will enhance their understanding of habitats, food chains, interdependence and adaptation.

MAP READING AND COMPASS SKILLS

Children begin by learning some basic map reading skills before being taught how to use a compass to orientate a map and find a direction. Using these skills, they work in pairs to find their way around the Centre's woodland orienteering courses. This is followed by a tree trail where they use bearings to find their way between interesting trees and discover some of their secrets.

ALL TOGETHER NOW

The Centre specialises in teambuilding activities. Children are encouraged to work in mixed groups and develop their social and teamwork skills, as well as increasing their confidence and self-esteem. The day begins with den building where children are awarded tokens for safety and teamwork. You can then choose between Now Get Out Of That! teambuilding challenges or campfire cooking, where children build a fire, gut and cook fish.

RIVER EXPLORERS

Unite geography knowledge and numeracy skills in an ideal introduction or perfect summary to your rivers topic! Children use a combination of observations and measurements to gather information about the River Glaven. Discover how the river changes as it travels downstream and how humans have impacted on it.

ON THE BEACH

In the morning we visit Overstrand, a seaside village affected by coastal erosion. Children make sketches of the sea defences and the crumbling cliffs and consider the issues of managing the coast. In the afternoon we move on to West Runton where children look for plants and animals living in the rockpools and make 'sea creature' sand sculptures on the beach.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?

Use an investigative approach to find out if Holt or Cromer are places where people want to live now and in the future. Are there enough facilities? Who do they appeal to? What would you change if you were in charge? What does the future hold? Practical activities can be applied to your locality and can empower your pupils to make a difference in their own community.

DOWN AT THE FARM

Discover where food comes from and how it is produced through a visit to a local farm. Find out about issues relating to seasonal and organic food. Challenge pupils to bring a 'low waste' lunch! Where do the left overs go? Combine your farm visit with activities in Holt Hall's walled garden. 'Roots and Shoots' Manager Chris Wright can offer advice on 'growing' in your school grounds.

Wells Field Studies Centre

WELLS AS A CONTRASTING LOCALITY

Come and discover how Wells is different to the place where your children live and go to school! We take a geographical enquiry approach; growing the day from children's own questions. In the morning, children have an opportunity to explore the main physical and human features of the town and in the afternoon we narrow our focus and look at building use and begin to analyse the data we collect.

INVESTIGATING THE CHANGING BEACH

Come and practise your geographical skills on wide open Wells Beach! Why does it look like it does? Where have the muddy areas and sand dunes come from? How is it changing? We use a combination of activities to help children investigate how the action of the wind and water contribute to the changes we see. This day explores erosion, deposition and flood prevention.

MAPTASTIC

What makes us look? What makes us smile? What disgusts us? What do we love? What can we smell? Who is doing what? We take a walk around Wells town, look at it with a different perspective and map the things that interest us. This activity will develop understanding of scale, compass directions and navigating using maps. A really alternative approach to enhancing map skills.

THINKING THROUGH WAXHAM

Let teachers from Wells Field Studies Centre facilitate a day out at Waxham Barn for your class! This cross-curricular learning opportunity is based around developing your pupils' thinking skills, using sustainable construction as a context. Pupils participate in three hands-on activities whilst on site: having a go at some sustainable building techniques, a trail about sustainability/history and a visit to the local church and sand dunes to discover more about the history of Waxham.

STORY WRITING

Bring your class to beautiful Wells-next-the-Sea to seek inspiration for creative writing! Our day visit has been put together in partnership with Literacy Advisers to meet objectives set out in the framework. We'll take your children to special outdoor places where we'll use our imaginations and share stories. On return to the Centre we'll eat lunch and then move to the classroom where we'll use our mornings' experiences to plan a story using a storyboard.

TEAMWORK CHALLENGE

Put your teamwork skills to the test! Down in the pinewoods there are a variety of team challenges to work out; from shelter building to negotiating a giant spider's web, and from herding sheep to crossing an acid stream! This will give us a chance to develop our skills of communication, compromise, cooperation and problem solving.

BIRDS AND BEAKS

We ask the question 'Why do the birds on the marshes have different beaks?' and set out to find some answers! The session will be an introduction to adaptation, focussing on how birds are suited to living in sandy/muddy habitats. We will bird watch on the quay and undertake a team beak practical in the classroom.

MEET THE ANCESTORS

Visit the Eцени Village that brings the past alive! Take a step back in time with living historians Jo and Steve. Meet the ancestors at home in the temple, warriors' hall and shepherd's cot. Have a go at ancient technologies common to the ancestors of many periods: wattle and daub building, spinning & weaving, milling grain and fire-lighting without matches. Please note there will be an additional charge for this option.

Booking Information

Environmental and Outdoor Learning Team



High quality, hands-on learning

Holt Hall Field Studies Centre

Holt Hall Field Studies Centre can cater for up to 60 pupils depending upon availability, with free places for their accompanying adults.

The Centre offers:

- Appropriately qualified and experienced teaching staff
- 35 hectares of ancient woodland, lakes & gardens
- Proximity to a range of stunning fieldwork locations, including the River Glaven and the North Norfolk coast
- Two indoor and well-equipped teaching laboratories (subject to availability)
- A flexible approach to programme planning that will ensure your visit meets all your requirements

For further information or to book a visit for your school please contact us as soon as possible:

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Fax: 01263 712396

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Web: www.norfolk.gov.uk/holthall

Wells Field Studies Centre

Wells Field Studies Centre can cater for up to 36 pupils, with free places for their accompanying adults.

The Centre offers:

- Appropriately qualified and experienced teaching staff
- Sole occupancy of the Centre during your visit, with an option for young people to cook together
- Fantastic fieldwork sites on our doorstep such as Wells Beach, Wells Saltmarsh, Holkham Park and the Pinewoods
- An indoor and well-equipped classroom base and a dedicated dining room for eating lunches
- A flexible approach to programme planning that will ensure your visit meets all your requirements

For further information or to book a visit for your school please contact us as soon as possible:

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Day Visits to Holt Hall and Wells Field Studies Centre

Using outdoor learning opportunities to bring Geography, Science, Literacy, PSHE and History alive at Key Stage 2.



www.norfolk.gov.uk/outdoorlearning

We look forward to welcoming you and your pupils to our Centres for a day or residential visit



Norfolk County Council
at your service