

Considering ways to progress through John Muir Award Levels

Progressing through Levels

There are three Levels to the John Muir Award. The Discovery Award is undertaken first. You can encourage further activity and involvement by moving on to the next Levels – Explorer and Conserver Awards.

- Use the information pointers in the table below to help guide your John Muir Award progression.
- Consider what’s appropriate to your wild places, your activities and your group.
- Use the John Muir Award Proposal Form to demonstrate your plans.

Repeating Levels

John Muir Award participation is a unique experience for each individual who takes part. Each Award is delivered by different organisations in different wild places, with their own unique approaches and activities. You are welcome to repeat the same Award Level – with a different organisation or in different places or with different people – as this provides opportunities for new and valuable experiences.

Time	Ownership	Activity
<p>Clear minimum, progressive, time commitments are set for each Level of the Award (4, 8 and 20 days). You can be creative with this: for example increase time alone in nature, or build in experiences at different times of day or night, or consider residential learning experiences. (Progression isn’t simply doing the same activities for longer.)</p>	<p>Is there scope for more decision-making and organising from within your group? Could there be more involvement from participants in the planning stages? Could they contribute ideas and suggestions about the wild places you visit, the activities you do and the themes you look at?</p>	<p>All activity should be meaningful, realistic and achievable — it should be challenging too. Does progression mean doing more of what you’ve already been doing, or doing something different? Try something more adventurous than at Discovery Level. What activities interest and motivate you and your group? Think about activities participants can do individually, as well as part of a group. What help can you get through increased partnership working, local connections or linking to wider national initiatives?</p>
Responsibility	Leadership	Location
<p>As part of your John Muir Award you are challenged to take responsibility for wild places. What more can you do/change at home, at work, or at school to help conserve wild places? Look for ways you can leave a lasting impact not only on wild places, but also through the way you share your experiences and inspire others.</p>	<p>Members of your group might take on or lead roles to assist parts of Award delivery (e.g. explain who John Muir was, introduce the four Award Challenges). Consider how different leadership styles work for different people or places.</p>	<p>Your activity might have started locally. Consider progressing to places further afield — on a regional or national scale. Conversely, learning from distant places can be applied to the home environment, in more depth and detail — compare and contrast the different places you experience.</p>

Visit the John Muir Award [Case Studies](#) for further examples of John Muir Award progression. Or [contact](#) your John Muir Award Manager.