

England Education Overview: Education-related resources & links and the John Muir Award

Aimed at teachers, educational practitioners & leaders, as well as partners, & key funders, this overview highlights a range of resources and links that demonstrate how the John Muir Award contributes to England's education landscape. It is England-focused; a similar [Scotland-focused version](#) is also available.



Themes	Key Information and Documents
The Curriculum	The John Muir Award and the Curriculum gives an overview of how it helps to deliver broad and balanced experiences and outcomes. See John Muir Award Information Handbook , page 26-27. Varied John Muir Award case studies (including short films) involving schools and colleges are available (see overleaf).
Outdoor Learning	The John Muir Award offers a context, a starting point, and a structure for Outdoor Learning. Participation can inspire more activity outdoors, bridge indoor and outdoor learning and give recognition - for teachers, educators, volunteers, families and pupils. See page 6 of the John Muir Award and the Curriculum document, and John Muir Award Information Handbook , page 25. Many schools and groups use the John Muir Award to frame Residential Outdoor Learning experiences. The #BrilliantResidentials campaign from Learning Away supports stakeholders to work together to provide high quality residential experiences.
Developing Character	Many schools use the John Muir Award to support their work in developing character , including raising pupils' attainment and aspirations, improving wellbeing, and influencing their capacity to reach their full potential.
Inclusion	A key aim of the John Muir Award is to ensure that circumstances are not a barrier to opportunities to experience wild places. At least 25% pa of take-up is from 'Inclusion' audiences. Inclusion, Wild Places and the John Muir Award gives an overview of interaction with Inclusion themes, why and how diverse organisations get involved, and how this relates to national policy. See John Muir Award Information Handbook , page 28.
Volunteering, Citizenship and Youth Social Action	Participating in activities to meet the Conserve challenge of the John Muir Award provides a platform for taking personal responsibility for the natural environment – including school grounds, or local communities – captured in The John Muir Award – a catalyst for Youth Social Action . The #iwill campaign promotes the value of social action. The John Muir Trust pledged to work with partners to help 100,000 young people achieve their John Muir Award (2016-2020), engaging in practical conservation activities that make a difference to wild places. The John Muir Award is designed to be integrated with other award schemes and initiatives such as Forest Schools, Eco Schools and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award .
Employment and Life Skills	Employability and the John Muir Award gives an overview of how it can be used to help move people towards employment.
Health and Wellbeing	Five Ways to Wellbeing shows how schools, mental health groups and outdoor centres use the John Muir Award in relation to this accessible interpretation of Wellbeing. The John Muir Award Health Impact Study , led by Dr Richard Mitchell from the University of Glasgow, assessed the impact of the John Muir Award on the health-related behaviours, attitudes and aspirations of participants. See John Muir Award Information Handbook , page 32-33.
Literacy and Nature	A Literacy & Nature Resource Guide and Case Study give ideas, resources and examples for improving literacy, through nature experiences. Information and resources about The Lost Words collaboration (Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris) are hosted.

Themes explored through Case Studies

Residential experiences and Adventure learning	<p>#BrilliantResidentials in the Lake District National Park - a quality residential learning experience, with adventurous activity, a National Park setting and a strong curriculum context.</p> <p>Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre, Argyll & Bute – a residential partnership approach to delivering the John Muir Award with schools.</p> <p>Fairfield High School - a high school that uses the John Muir Award to support a BTEC in Adventurous Activities.</p>
Cross-curricular learning	<p>Mill View School - 'Why are wild places important'? Cross-curricular learning in Year 6.</p> <p>Balshaw High School - find out how a secondary school delivered the John Muir Award with a whole year group, using the Y7 Geography curriculum.</p>
Personal development	<p>Clavering School - nurturing connections and enthusiasm for nature, wild places and conservation within a school community.</p> <p>Keswick School - applying a holistic approach towards education to encourage appreciation of pupils' surroundings and develop skills and self-confidence</p>
Outdoor learning	<p>A Pollinator Portfolio: creating a buzz through the John Muir Award - John Muir Award participants from across the UK are supporting pollinators to thrive, through exciting conservation activity.</p> <p>Shirland Primary School - demonstrating how the John Muir Award can enrich outdoor experiences and help schools deliver high quality outdoor learning.</p> <p>A full year summary of Outward Bound Trust partnership outputs, demonstrating how activity across Outward Bound centres can relate to the Challenges of John Muir Award.</p> <p>Okehampton Primary School and the Woodland Trust (film) - this film focuses on the children's activities in Fingle Woods in Dartmoor where they discovered the wilder parts of the Teign Valley.</p>
School grounds	<p>Crookfur Primary School – pupils transform school grounds into a new woodland area, creating an outdoor space to play and learn in.</p> <p>Burnfoot Community School – turning a neglected playground into a biodiversity haven – with a focus on literacy skills.</p>
Parental involvement	<p>Golfhill Primary Family Award – ten families in the east end of Glasgow complete their family John Muir Award through their local primary school.</p> <p>Durham County Council Family Learning - family Awards run as part of a 6 week course to investigate and enjoy nature by working together.</p>

John Muir Award [Resource Guides](#) support participation including: Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Parks, biodiversity, surveys, wildlife gardening, literacy & nature, and John Muir.

An annual John Muir Award England Education Report including County-wide figures of Award involvement available on request.

For further information in relation to this overview, please contact EnglandEducation@johnmuiraward.org.