



JOHN
MUIR
AWARD

wild places:
DISCOVER
EXPLORE
CONSERVE
SHARE

Seven ways to get the most out of your local wild place

Enjoy the health and educational benefits of our seven-day John Muir Award challenge during **#WalesOutdoorLearningWeek (28 March—3 April 2022)**

Evidence shows that learning in the natural environment improves knowledge and understanding, helping us recognise the impact we have on the environment now and in the future.

Here are some ideas to get you started on engaging with outdoor learning. We've put together a seven-day plan to evidence how outdoor learning can meet a range of curriculum areas. Activities can be tailored and done independently, or in small groups.

Of course, you might have ideas of your own, the most important thing is that you get outdoors and keep learning.

#johnmuiraward
#walesoutdoorlearningweek

Literacy Tuesday Write a nature poem

Go for a walk in your local area and think of all your senses.

- What can you hear, smell, see?
- Can you write a poem to capture what your surroundings are?

Arts and crafts Monday Create a rain catcher

Create a device that can catch the rain as it falls using recycled materials like a bottle or a jar. Think of a suitable place in your local area to place it, somewhere it won't get damaged and it can collect plenty of rain!

- How are you going to measure the amount of rain it catches?
- How much rain would you expect to collect at this time of year? (Maybe do some research to see what's normal.)
- How can we use rainwater to reduce our everyday water uses at home?

Numeracy Wednesday Make a sundial

Create a sundial to be able to tell the time based on the shadows from the sun.

- Do a survey of your local area / school grounds, where is the best place to put your sundial to be able to get an accurate reading?
- How does the time of year effect the usefulness of a sundial?



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Geography Thursday

Map your surroundings

After walking around and researching your local area, draw a detailed map.

- Can you use universal map symbols to highlight the main features?
- Remember to include a key so the reader can follow the map!



Numeracy Saturday

Treasure hunt

Go on an adventure and locate the largest leaf you can find!

- Can you document it? Take a picture and measure it with a ruler.
- Can you identify what type of leaf it was and how popular it is in your area?

Healthy living Friday

Do a local litter pick

Spend some time tidying up your local area, do a litter pick or clear some weeds.

- Take before and after pictures and make some notes on what you did to improve the area.
- What can you do to help make sure less litter is left in these areas?



Arts and Crafts Sunday

Upcycle for nature

Using recycled materials, create a bee hotel or bird feeder to help the wildlife in your garden / local area.

- Monitor the use over the next few months, record what kind of wildlife uses it and take photos!

Working together for outdoor learning and the natural environment



Cyngor Cymru ar Gyfer
Dysgu yn yr Awyr Agored
Wales Council for
Outdoor Learning

The Wales Council for Outdoor Learning brings together all stakeholders involved in Outdoor Learning in Wales. It recognises that each stakeholder has a valuable role to play in contributing towards a collective, coherent voice for Outdoor Learning in Wales, built on an ethos/foundation of being collaborative, neutral, proactive and strategic.

Find out more

For more information on how to continue the journey to discovery, explore, conserve and share your outdoor experiences, visit johnmuiraward.org or email info@johnmuiraward.org to access free online training with the John Muir Award.

Share

Share what you've got up to during outdoor learning week on social media using [#johnmuiraward](https://twitter.com/johnmuiraward) or [#walesoutdoorlearningweek](https://twitter.com/walesoutdoorlearningweek)

Illustrations by Tom Morgan Jones – view his John Muir Award [poster in full here](#)

The John Muir Trust is a Scottish charitable company limited by guarantee. (Charity No. SC002061 Company No. SC081620). Registered office: Tower House, Station Road, Pitlochry, PH16 5AN



The John Muir Trust's environmental award scheme – the John Muir Award – encourages people of all backgrounds to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places. It is inclusive, accessible and non-competitive, though should challenge each participant.

The Award encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment through a structured yet adaptable scheme, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration.

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