



Through multisensory activities, play and exploration we combine early year's targets and wildlife to allow active learning, critical thinking and creativity in your outside space, a local wild space or Essex Wildlife Trust site.

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Forest School See here for details	Minibeasts See here for details
Senses See here for details	Trees & plants See here for details
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For prices [See here for details](#)

For bookings or further information contact:

Outdoor Learning Manager: learnoutdoors@essexwt.org.uk 01621862992



Senses



Skills	Fine motor skills, gross motor skills, safe use of tools & equipment, numbers, exploring senses, living things, Knowledge and understanding of the world, identification , care for living things, seasons
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of activities (30 mins/ 1 hour):
Sound	How many different sounds can you hear outside? What are they? Where are they? Can you keep a beat with a stick or a natural drum or do you know the sounds of bird calls - Can you find your flock?
Sight	Can you find colours to match the pieces from the rainbow? Or search for minibeasts and think about how they use colour to protect themselves? Can you find the hidden caterpillars? Why are some easier to find than others?
Smell	Make a cocktail using natural materials found and add a special mixer. Is it a perfume or a pongy potion? Can you give it a name? How many different smells can you find outside?
Touch	Feely challenge – can you find something tickly and prickly? How about smooth or rough? Or can you find the tree you hugged blindfolded?
Taste	Explore safety issues around eating things growing outdoors. Taste a variety of locally grown produce or natural delicacy or why not try a gooey marshmallow?
Messing with your senses	Disorientate your senses using a mirror to walk in the tree tops and fall into the sky.

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Minibeasts & invertebrates



Skills	Fine motor skills, gross motor skills, safe use of tools & equipment, numbers, exploring senses, living things, Knowledge and understanding of the world, identification , care for living things, seasons, speaking and listening.
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of projects:
Minibeast hunting (1 hour per habitat)	Explore the different habitats of the site using sweep nets, bug pots and tree beaters to identify different species. What ones live where and why and how are they adapted to their environment?
Develop your wild areas	Develop new habitats in your wild areas for minibeasts. Make a bug hotel or create a pond... See here for details

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Natural art



Location: Own site, local wild space, Essex Wildlife Trust sites.

Skills	Experimentation, risk management, fine and gross motor skills, problem solving & collaboration, identification, understanding & knowledge of the world, seasons, art , speaking and listening.
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of projects (1/1.5 hours):
Land art	Work in groups and take inspiration from Land artists like Richard Shilling and Andy Goldsworthy to create some land art using materials collected from your site.
Stone age painting	Use different natural materials to make paint and paint brushes and create a masterpiece.
Hapazome	Use leaves and fabric and natural stone hammers to recreate this ancient Japanese art work style.
Tree faces	Use natural clay to sculpt 3D faces for the trees giving them characters that suit the tree.
Stick people	Use natural materials to make your own stick person considering ratios of body parts and finding the best materials to make your person .

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Coasts and beaches & Coastal School



Skills	Fine and gross motor skills, safe use of tools & equipment, shape, space and measures, textures, weather, critical thinking, collaboration, problem solving, living things, life cycles, identification, care for living things, seasons, speaking and listening.
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of projects (1.5/ 2 hours):
Strandline search	Using a range of identification sheets and books, explore the strandline and intertidal zone at low tide to identify wildlife and
Beach art	Using natural materials, make land art using inspiration from the beach.
Exploring the coast	Explore the intertidal zone, groynes, breakwaters and high tide line to discover and identify the wildlife that exists there.
Coastal School (Set of 6 sessions for 1.5/ 2 hours for 15 children)	Like Forest School but at the beach. This is a series of visits to a local beach led by a trained Coastal School Leader who brings a variety of activities and adapts sessions to follow the direction and interests of the children through the weeks. They may explore stones, sound, identification, den building, fire lighting (if allowed), tides and weather

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Trees & Plants



Skills	Strength, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, safe use of tools, plants & growing, collaboration, problem solving, living things, life cycles, identification and care for living things, seasons, speaking and listening.
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of projects:
Parts of a plant (1 hour)	Identify different parts of plants and trees around you and see if you can make your own picture of a tree or plant out of natural materials.
Seed dispersal (1/1.5 hours)	Nuts, berries, parachutes, Helicopters, pepper pots... Explore and collect the different types of seed containers from around your site and work out how they work. AUTUMN activity
The seed game (20 minutes)	A good introductory run around game to remember all the elements required for a seed to grow into a healthy plant.
Leafy lookalikes (30 mins)	Identify trees and shrubs and see if you can match their leaves to your surroundings.
Charlie the leaf (30 mins)	Explore the nutrient cycle and decay through the interactive story of Charlie the Leaf.
Green food factories (30 mins)	Explore the inner workings of a leaf and how it feeds all the world through photosynthesis and the transport system of a tree .
Tree top walk (20 minutes)	Use a mirror to take a disorientating walk through the tree tops and make sure you don't fall into the sky!

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Farming



Location: Abbots Hall Farm Abbots Hall Farm, Great Wigborough, CO5 7RZ

Map Ref : TL 966 142

Skills	Strength, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, plants & growing, collaboration, problem solving, living things, life cycles and care for living things, where food comes from, cooking, knowledge and understanding of the world, seasons, speaking and listening.
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of projects:
Flatbread making (1 hour)	<p>Learn how to make bread and where the ingredients come from.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grind corn from our farm to extract flour • Make and cook flatbreads • Make your own butter to go with the flatbreads • Enjoy your locally produced homemade flatbreads
Abbots Hall Farm trail (1 hours)	<p>This includes a trail round our farm identifying crops with challenges along the way testing your senses and the wildlife surrounding us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squidgy soil—sandy or clay? What can you make with it? • What is growing in the fields and what do we make with it?: • Listen and look out for wildlife • Identify trees in our mini woodland • Make your own farm out of natural materials
Guess the grain (10 minutes)	<p>By looking at and feeling the grain can you guess what is with a choice of oil seed rape, wheat, barley, peas and wild bird food mix.</p> <p>Can you get 5 out of 5?</p>

Funding available for visits in Spring and Autumn

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Bush Craft



Location: Own site, local wild space, Essex Wildlife Trust sites.

Skills	Shelter building, fire lighting, safe use of hand tools, green woodwork, experimentation, risk management, physical mobility & agility, problem solving & collaboration, species identification, understanding & knowledge of the world, seasons and art
Session outlines	Choose from the following series of projects (1/1.5 hours):
Shelter building	Working in groups to make shelters able to shelter you from a rainstorm. Using natural materials, tarpaulins and ropes.
Fire Lighting (30 mins/ 1 hour)	Understand the legal and safety issues when lighting fires outdoors. Learn to use flint and steels to make small fires.
Cooking on a fire (30 mins/ 1 hour)	Choose food to cook – marshmallows, s’ mores, drop scones or flatbreads. Prepare and cook selected food on the fire.
Arts and crafts (1/ 1.5 hours)	Use mud and natural materials such as clay, raffia and willow for a variety of projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land art • Stick people • Mobiles • Tree faces • Charcoal pencils

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Your Day

We offer Outdoor Learning sessions across the year to enrich the curriculum and provide bespoke sessions for science weeks and eco schools.

Choose from whole days, half days and one off sessions.

When you book a workshop with us, we will tailor the event to meet your needs and provide the following:

- Risk Assessments
 - Lesson Plans
- Links to the curriculum
- Resources/ equipment
- Expertise in the subject
- Links to wildlife and local natural spaces

Prices

Requested donations:

1 to 1.5 hour session	from £90 (one class)
Half day	from £140 (up to two classes)
One day	from £240 (up to three classes)
Abbotts Hall Farm EYFS £6/child	
FREE funded visits in Spring and Autumn for Farm days	

The price includes one leader, travel expenses, equipment and materials.
Extra cost for willow/logs/plants etc. if we source them for wildlife areas.

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