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for educators

wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWild

# Welcome to The Wildlife Trusts 30 Days Wild Challenge!

### Can your class or group do one wild thing every school day in June?



he Wildlife Trusts have planned a month of outdoor and classroombased learning activities, helping everyone to enjoy

the natural world, regardless of age or ability. Based on our research with The University of Derby, these fun activities will help connect your pupils/ group with nature and support their health and wellbeing.

We hope you enjoy what nature has in store for you and wish you and your group every success!

### Jen

Education and Learning Manager at The Wildlife Trusts

### TOP TIPS for teachers and group leaders

### **Prepare:**

- START SMALL new to outdoor learning? Start by going outside for a short period of time and working in a small area to begin with. Try five minutes taking the register outdoors, breathing in fresh air and practise listening to nature.
- 2. WEATHER CONDITIONS consider how the weather might change or impact your activity whilst your group is outdoors. If windy, voices won't carry as far, so encourage everyone to flock together like house sparrows!
- SET EXPECTATIONS set behaviour expectations together and explain the activity inside the classroom before going outside and repeat once everyone is outdoors.

### Adapt:

- 1. **KEEP IT SIMPLE** sensory activities and games are quick and simple and can be used every day to focus attention and help class control indoors and outdoors.
- **2. GIVE EVERYONE ROLES** like the indoor classroom, split into smaller groups and give each group or pupil responsibility for different tasks.
- **3. BE FLEXIBLE** shorten or lengthen the time spent outdoors depending on the situation e.g. weather conditions.

### Learn:

- LEARNING ABOUT NATURE you don't have to be a wildlife expert – if you don't know the answer to a question, share in the curiosity and research answers together. Visit The Wildlife Trusts website or contact your local Wildlife Trust wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-trusts
- TALKING NATURE provide keywords to prompt children to talk about what they discovered outdoors and share what they found.
- NUMERICAL NATURE encourage younger children to collect stones, pebbles, twigs and leaves and count them in class. Older children can measure an area of ground for sowing wildflower seeds.

# #30DaysWild at a glance

## In this pack you'll find a journey planner, which will help you map out your 30 Days Wild adventure.

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n this pack, we've suggested different activities for every day during 30 Days Wild but do feel free to invent your own too! Try to get into a routine of enjoying the outdoors together as a group throughout June.

Start in **WEEK ONE** by using the senses to help tune into nature: practice mindfulness in the fresh air, smell a flower and listen to the breeze in the trees.

Take time to get your wallchart (on the reverse of this foldout booklet) stuck on the wall and encourage your class to help document the group's 30 Days Wild journey by adding something each day.

In **WEEK TWO**, from June 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, we encourage you to get everyone moving. 30 Days Wild is the perfect opportunity to get outdoors and have an adventure. Try wildlife yoga outdoors, a picnic in the playground, play animal games in a field or go on a nature-themed treasure hunt.

**WEEK THREE**, from June 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, is all about developing curiosity, critical thinking and analytical skills. Go on a minibeast hunt, count wildflowers and discover five facts

about your favourite animal. Encourage teamwork and communication by asking the group to talk about wildlife and research new nature facts together.

In **WEEK FOUR**, from June 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, we'd love your group to help nature and give something back. Make a bee home or log pile for beetles, splash water into a shallow dish for hedgehogs and other wildlife to drink.

And why not take part in the Wild Kids Quiz. It's being broadcast through social media on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>, but the recording will be available afterwards, so you can play it anytime you want.

From June 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, with nature having seeped into your daily classroom routine, in this **FINAL WEEK** pledge to spend more time outdoors for the rest of the year! Get your group to talk about why nature matters to them and what should be done to protect it and share any plans with parents/carers and on social media.

For more activity ideas keep an eye on **#30DaysWild** on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We'd also encourage you to share your own activities in nature to inspire others too!





## More resources for going wild with your school or group!

### WILDLIFE IN SCHOOL GROUNDS INFO PACK

Advice on making your school grounds a haven for wildlife, play and learning wtru.st/schoolgrounds-pack



#### NATURE'S CLIMATE HEROES



Download a handy guide with lesson plans to help teach kids the role that nature plays in tackling climate change, and how we can help: wildlifewatch. org.uk/naturesclimate-heroes

#### SCHOOL GUIDE TO TAKING ACTION FOR INSECTS

Bugs, butterflies, beetles and other minibeasts are in trouble. Find out how to help at your school by visiting wildlifewatch.org.uk/ action-insects-schools-guide



### YOUR LOCAL WILDLIFE TRUST

Wildlife Trusts across the UK support schools to bring nature closer to the classroom. We work alongside teachers to develop confidence in outdoor learning, welcome schools to nature reserves and more. Find your nearest Wildlife Trust at **wildlifetrusts. org/wildlife-trusts** 



### WILDLIFE WATCH



Wildlife Watch is the junior arm of The Wildlife Trusts. You will find

activity sheets, identification spotting sheets, quizzes and more fun things on our website: wildlifewatch.org.uk/things-do

### LEARNING IN NATURE

Find out about The Wildlife Trusts' education and learning



opportunities in the natural world through school visits and outreach, nature clubs and events at **wildlifetrusts.org/learning** 

### Follow us...

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