# **Blashford Lakes Centre** Activities for children's and youth groups

Many people know that the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve is a fantastic place to explore nature!

The reserve's mosaic of lakes, ponds, river, woodland and grassland, provides the perfect location for outdoor play and hands on activities that enable children and young people to discover wildlife.

We provide exciting, fun and inspirational activities year round, what ever the weather!



Discover the weird and wonderful denizens of the deep on a pond exploration.

#### Run river run

Go for a splash in the Dockens Water river and discover the fish and other wildlife that lives there.

#### Catch the bug!

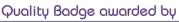
Explore the meadow with a sweep net to find brilliant bugs, crazy crickets, dazzling damselflies and great grasshoppers!

#### Den building

Work in a team to build a shelter with poles and tarps, with opportunities to learn useful knots and safe bow saw, axe and mallet use.

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#### Fire play

Learn how to safely light a fire before cooking up a tasty treat to enjoy together.

## Taking the sting out of nettles!

You'll never look at a nettle in the same way again! Forage for nettles and other wild food plants and then light a campfire and cook up a soup.

#### Natural art attack

Weave willow, create woodland collages and sculpt a 'boglin' from clay you've dug up from the ground yourself.

### Making sense of the world

Outdoor activities to awaken the senses and discover the natural world through hearing, sight, smell, touch - and even taste!

#### Wild night life

Discover Blashford Lakes at dusk and search for bats, moths and tawny owls. Come after dark to stargaze and confound your senses with moonlit magic tricks.

There is no formal charge for group visits but we do rely on your donations to help towards the running costs of the centre and nature reserve – as such we ask for £4 per person for half a day (£40 minimum donation) or £7 per person for a full day (£80 minimum donation).

To book your visit and discuss how we can tailor your day of activities to suit your groups needs please contact us on 01425 472760 or email BlashfordLakes@hiwwt.org.uk. The Blashford Project is a partnership project between Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, the New Forest District Council,

We look forward to hearing from you!



Bournemouth Water and Wessex Water



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