



Avon

Primary education programme



Our curriculum-linked learning programme gets children outdoors, captivates them in the wonders of wildlife and encourages them to investigate and appreciate the natural world



Who are we?

Avon Wildlife Trust is a charity that works to protect wildlife in the West of England through innovative approaches, including the restoration and conservation of habitats, community engagement and environmental education.

We have been delivering high quality education programmes for 25 years and we are committed to offering inspiring out-of-the-classroom learning, delivered by our enthusiastic and experienced teaching staff.

Why visit us?

The benefits of getting children outside and into the natural environment are numerous; giving children an opportunity to explore a world beyond the classroom, learn new skills, discover unique experiences and boost their wellbeing. All of our curriculum-linked programmes encourage young people to respect and engage with wildlife and nature and most importantly, have fun whilst they're at it!



Where are we?

We have fully equipped environmental learning centres at Folly Farm and Feed Bristol. Maps of our learning centre locations can be found on the back page of this leaflet.

In the heart of the Chew Valley, set amidst a stunning 250-acre nature reserve, **Folly Farm** is an inspirational place to explore, investigate and learn about the natural world and connect with our environment. We run day visits or you can stay in our beautifully restored 18th century farmhouse on a residential field trip.



At **Feed Bristol**, a community food growing project in Stapleton, children can delve into our wonderful wildlife-friendly gardens and food growing spaces.



Folly Farm: a stunning 250-acre nature reserve in the Chew Valley

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Teddy Bears' Picnic (Foundation / Key Stage 1)

Take part in a sensory earthwalk, discover what all animals need to survive and follow the missing teddies into the woods for a picnic! Build a woodland shelter to help your bears survive. During the autumn months you'll also learn how Folly's woodland creatures prepare for and survive through the winter.

Hungry Caterpillar (Reception / Year 1)

Follow a caterpillar trail into the woods and discover the part of the life cycle before they transform into a butterfly. Later, play a fun butterfly feeding game and get creative by making a beautiful butterfly collage from natural finds.

Miniature World (Years 1 and 2)

Follow a trail of chance into the woods to see what can help or hinder minibeasts in our gardens. Discover the real importance of minibeasts in the world and find out which ones live in the woodland and what they need to survive. Later on, delve beneath the waters of the pond to see which minibeasts lurk there!

Brilliant Birds (Years 1 and 2)

Find out what dangers baby birds face on their journey from egg to 'flying the nest' by following a trail of chance into the woods. Find a mate, then have a go at building your own nest and finding the right food! Later, make a beautiful willow bird feeder to take back to school.

Creativity and Sensory Day (Key Stage 1)

Immerse yourself in nature at Folly Farm through a wide range of sensory games in the woodland. Then get creative – activities may include making a collage from natural finds, creating a creature from clay or whipping up a 'smelly cocktail'! This day can be tailored for you.

Autumn Antics (Year 2)

Learn how Folly's woodland creatures prepare for winter – do they hibernate or collect a store of nuts/acorns to draw on when food is scarce? Test your memory to see if you can find what you've hidden away and see if you can keep a small mammal warm enough to survive a winter's night. Later, use autumn colours to create a colour collage.



Avon Wildlife Trust has a long-standing partnership with Cathy Mayne and Anna Stevens from My Green World, who develop and deliver educational programmes and activities at Folly Farm, with a particular focus on Key Stage 1.

Key Stage 2

Contrasting Habitats

Discover which invertebrates live in Folly Woods and lurk below the surface of our pond. What adaptations make them suited to their aquatic or terrestrial habitats? Learn all about food chains; what makes the carnivores excellent predators and find out how their prey protect themselves.

Sustainability and Conservation

Explore the impacts of food production, waste generation, electricity and water use. Find out why nature has the best recycling system and how Folly Farm works with the natural world to be more sustainable. Discover ways you can tread more lightly on our planet.

Home Sweet Home (Years 3 and 4)

Apply for a job in one of Folly's habitats – wetland, woodland or meadow and find out what your role is in that habitat. What happens when the wetland dries up – can your species survive in another habitat? How does this affect the balance of nature, species adaptation and interdependence? Later, investigate which species live in the freshwater habitat.

Craft and Creativity (Years 3 and 4)

Immerse yourself in the nature of Folly Farm through a wide-range of traditional art and craft activities. These could include painting with natural materials and 'home-made' paint, weaving a hurdle out of willow and hazel, weaving on a Y-stick or creating an Andy Goldsworthy-style work of art.

For more detailed information on any of our learning programmes and for full curriculum links visit avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildschools



Feed Bristol: an inspirational community food-growing project in Bristol

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Growing Delights

Discover all about the wonderful world of trees, plants and vegetables in our living landscape.

Happy Habitats

Explore and contrast different habitats and get to know why their inhabitants love to live there.



Key Stage 2

Growing Detectives

Delve deeper into the plant kingdom, learning about the structure and function of plants and discover their relationships with pests and pollinators.

Hands on Habitats

Work scientifically to examine our woodland, meadow and kitchen garden, classifying and making connections.





Residential stays at Folly Farm

Why not have more time to explore Folly Farm and also discover what creatures emerge in the woods after nightfall? We cater for residential stays ranging from one to four nights. The programmes are flexible, so do get in touch to discuss your requirements.

Key Stage 1

Nocturnal Nature (Year 2, 2 days / 1 night)

Find out about what happens when you go to bed and the night-time hunters emerge. Learn all about where they live, how they keep warm and how they use their senses to survive. Set approved small mammal and moth traps, watch for badgers, listen for owls and dissect owl pellets, become bat detectors and find out how bats echo-locate to find food.

Key Stage 2

Predators and Survival (2 days / 1 night)

Over the two days you will explore different habitats, investigate the fine balance of predator and prey relationships and learn how wildlife adapts to survive. Then your own survival skills will be put to the test, as you build shelters and learn how to make a fire.



Wildlife Filmmaking (3 days / 2 nights)

Use the stunning location of Folly Farm as the setting to create your own wildlife film. Learn about the inhabitants of Folly Woods, produce story boards, capture your footage, edit and of course showcase your movie at the Folly premiere. Finally, learn how to survive in the wild using traditional skills.

Folly Farm Adventure Week (5 days / 4 nights)

Ideal for years 5 and 6, this fun-packed residential programme incorporates a range of education topics, as well as adventurous activities in the surrounding Chew Valley.

Get in touch

For more information or to arrange your visit, contact us on:

- ▶ schools@avonwildlifetrust.org.uk
- ▶ 0117 917 7270
- ▶ avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildschools
- ▶ Avon Wildlife Trust Learning Team, 32 Jacobs Wells Road, Bristol, BS8 1DR



Your students are guaranteed an action-packed, hands-on experience. But don't just take our word for it...

"In my opinion, the facilities at Folly Farm are without equal for the type of activities we engage in and I know the children had a great time... it was a memorable stay and one that will remain with the children and staff for a very long time"

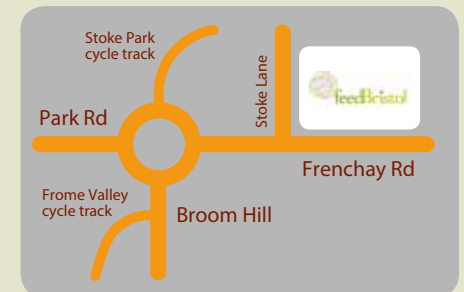
"We all absolutely LOVED our visit... and learned many things. FANTASTIC"

"Excellent, would recommend to anyone... very high quality and service from booking to trip"

How to find us

Folly Farm Centre Stowey, Pensford, Bristol, BS39 4DW

Feed Bristol Frenchay Park Road, Stapleton, BS16 1HB



We look forward to welcoming you at one of our learning centres soon!

