

Ranger-led programmes

All programmes can be adapted to suit a range of Key Stages.

Sustainability

Going Global

Using role-play & critical skills learn about human requirements, wants & needs and the impact that our choices & actions have on people and the planet. Includes shelter-building and activities relating to water and food. Developed in partnership with CDEC.

The World is Hot Enough

Explore the global issues of climate change and sustainable development, with a focus on the role that trees and forests can play.

Land and Lake

Discover how the lake and the surrounding landscape can be managed for a sustainable future. Explore three of the main problems for water quality in the lake and how the forest environment can provide solutions to these problems. Developed in partnership with Bassenthwaite Reflections.

Forests for the Future

A tour of the forest to examine how the Forestry Commission manages its forests sustainably and minimises the conflicting interests of a multiple-use forest such as its timber production, recreation, wildlife conservation, historical land-use and landscape design. This programme can include a critical skills challenge, where individuals consider the needs and interests of different user groups.

Nature

Ecological processes

Studying plants & animals in their natural environment using keys and identification charts. It includes a look at food chains & webs, adaptation and interdependence. Choose either a mini-beast hunt, pond-dipping or building animal shelters as your session focus.

Rare and endangered wildlife

Learn about two of Whinlatter's key species the Osprey and the Red Squirrel. This programme focuses on what is being done to conserve them. It includes a look at migration, environmental and historical perspectives and habitat management. It also identifies the value of raising public awareness and the link to species conservation.

Team building

Shelter Building

Use team-working skills to make a natural shelter from forest materials to protect them from the Lake District weather. The role of forests in climate change and a sustainable future are also considered.

Blindfold Trail

Students follow an exciting rope trail that leads deep into the forest, tackling obstacles along the way, blindfolded. The trail is both a personal and group challenge as well being as an alternative way to explore the forest.

Residential package

in partnership with the National Trust and YHA

Learn about the landscape of the Lake District by visiting a working farm and a mountain forest. Stay at the YHA at Borrowdale or YHA Derwentwater.

Other ways in which we can work with you

We also offer tailor-made sessions for vocational studies and A-level courses. We support learners in achieving their John Muir Award, particularly the conservation aspect. Our rangers are trained Forest Schools leaders and carry out a range of conservation work with community and school groups.

General

The forest has much to offer visiting groups, with numerous waymarked trails, orienteering courses and an adventure playground. Explore the Rabbit Run, Fox Trot or Squirrel Scurry, which offer the perfect introductions to way-faring for the younger age group.

Orienteering DVD presentations are available on request. The presentation, which lasts about 15 minutes, gives an introduction to the orienteering course at Whinlatter with key tips and advice. To book this facility, please use the enclosed booking form.

The Visitor Centre and Siskins Cafe are open all year round. For details of opening hours please telephone the Visitor Centre direct on 017687 78469.

The Forest Shop sells books, maps and guides to the forest, as well as gifts and souvenirs of your visit. Please let us know if you plan to bring a group to the forest on your own, as it does get very busy in the summer. If you have any problems or would like to chat about your visit, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Rangers.