



School visits to the Ashdown Forest – KS1



Choose a from the sessions below or let us know what learning or experience you would like to your pupils to gain and we can put together a bespoke day for you. All our sessions are interactive, involve some walking across the Forest and promote curiosity and care for the natural world.

Sessions run generally from 10am to 2.30pm and are based at the Ashdown Forest Centre.

The day will include a morning and afternoon activity based session where you will be guided by an Ashdown Specialist Leader in immersive trails, hands-on activities aimed at fun and inspiration.

‘Fantastic - well planned and delivered session. Informative, relevant, active and enjoyable for the children. Good curriculum links.’

‘So much fun!’

‘Well organised! Stress free!’

‘Always an enjoyable and informative experience with kind and friendly staff’

‘Really fantastic day! Interactive and the children learnt a lot throughout the day’

‘Thanks so much! Another brilliant visit!’

‘The children had a fantastic time and learned so much for our topic!’

‘Session led by very knowledgeable leaders who kept the children’s interest.’

Animals and their homes

- Games and activities exploring who lives on the Forest, what they eat, where they hide and what secret signs they leave behind.
- Develop your senses to read the signs, follow some animal tracks and trails or have a go at making your own.
- Go minibeast hunting in the woods or catch minibeasts in the grassland with sweep nets.

Curriculum links: Science (plants and animals), Geography (local area)

Plants of the Ashdown Forest

- Plants that make the heathland of the Ashdown Forest, why are they special and how do they survive.
- Learn the bee dance, pollinate the flowers and find out why plants need bees.
- Compare the plants of the heathland to the woodland.
- Play games to help identify trees and tree parts.

Curriculum links: Science (plants and animals), Geography (local area)

Seasonal explorer

Explore the Forest with sensory games and activities to find out what is happening during the season of your visit.

- Autumn: seeds and berries, autumn art, getting ready for winter.
- Winter: survival, identifying winter twigs, watching the way water moves through the landscape.
- Spring: tap the birch tree, look for signs of spring and new life.
- Summer: pollination and flower power - a great time to identify plants and find out more about who lives in, under and on them.

Curriculum links: Science (Seasonal change, plants, animals and materials), Geography (local area, vocabulary)

Winnie the Pooh

- Immerse your class in the landscape setting for AA Milne famous bear stories.
- Find out about the plants and animals that were part of Pooh's adventures.
- Discover the Lone Pine, the Sandy Place where Roo loved to play and search for some of Pooh's well known places.
- Follow the stories and play Pooh's favourite games, build a home for Eeyore, find Eeyore a new tail or search for a new tree house for Owl.

Curriculum links: English (language development, story settings), Science (plants and animals), Geography (local area and maps), Design and Technology (materials and their uses, construction)

Free Outreach sessions

- If your school is within 15 miles of the Ashdown Forest the Education Team can deliver a free outreach session in your school. Use this either before or after your visit to consolidate learning or to enrich your topic work.
- Sessions can be workshops of any length up to a day per class or a general introduction to the whole school for example through an assembly.

Forest school sessions

- Designated fenced Forest School area plus access to the whole of the Ashdown Forest
- Experienced Level 3 Forest school leaders
- Wellbeing, nurture and health groups
- Options for weekly or termly sessions

