

Scouting and Guiding Association

Visit Options and Conditions

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



The Wildlife Trusts, the National Trust and the Natural History Museum are supporting the Cub Naturalists Activity Badge and are providing exciting new resources to encourage Cub Scouts to get outdoors and explore nature. Many of these resources are also suitable for other groups, such as Scouts and Brownies, to enable them to achieve similar badges, such as the Wildlife Explorer Badge.

For the Cub Naturalist Badge criteria, visit: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/1426/naturalist-activity-badge/?cat=12,67,127&moduleID=10>

Visit options

The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) is pleased to be able to help groups achieve their badges. We offer three options (see below). BBOWT staff led sessions will be run by BBOWT Education or Community staff or trainees:

Option 1: Self-led visit at a BBOWT site

This option enables you to run your own activity/session on one of our sites. It can involve using one of our leaflets to guide you around the site.

To use the site: contact us to find out if the site is available / suitable and what activities you can do there, including the availability of a guided walk leaflet.

Please note this option will require a site pre-visit. Also please note, not all BBOWT sites are suitable; please contact us for further information (contact details below).

We would appreciate any donation you are able to make to help with site management costs. We suggest a donation of £ 25 per group .

Please note - this option is dependent on variable site restrictions and staff availability.



Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

The Lodge, 1 Armstrong Road, Littlemore, Oxford, OX4 4XT • Tel: 01865 775476 • Email: info@bbowt.org.uk
Registered charity no. 204330

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Option 2: BBOWT staff-led visit at a BBOWT site

This option provides a BBOWT staff member who will run a 2 hour activity/session relevant to the Cub Naturalist Activity Badge (or similar award), such as pond-dipping or bug hunting, at a reserve or education centre.

Please note - this option is dependent on the time of year, equipment availability and staff availability.

Suggested donation: £4 per child, with a suggested minimum of £50 per group

Option 3: BBOWT staff-led visit at your club grounds

Depending on the location of your club grounds, we may be able to provide a BBOWT staff member who will run a one-off, 2 hour activity/session relevant to the Cub Naturalist Activity Badge (or similar award), such as tree ID or bug hunting, at your club grounds. If you want to explore wildlife on your doorstep, BBOWT can come to you with equipment and paper resources. Just tell us what activity you would like to do (from the Cub Naturalist Activity Badge or similar), and we'll come to your meeting.

We are also available to run training sessions with Scouting and Guiding Association group leaders.

Suggested minimum donation: £75 per group

Please note - this option is dependent on the location of your club grounds, that time of year, equipment availability and staff availability.

Possible BBOWT Site locations:

Not all BBOWT sites are suitable for educational activities. We recommend you use the sites listed below:

Berkshire: Woolley Firs Environmental Education Centre, Maidenhead or Nature Discovery Centre, Thatcham (BBOWT staff or self-led) or Loddon Community Nature Reserve (BBOWT staff or self-led).

Buckinghamshire: College Lake (BBOWT staff-led or self-led) or Dancersend nature reserve (self-led).

Oxfordshire: CS Lewis Nature Reserve (self-led) and Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre or Warburg Nature Reserve (BBOWT staff-led).



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Conditions

1. We are a charity and rely on your donations to carry out our work. It helps us keep our costs to a minimum if you bring a cheque for your donation with you on the day of your visit.
2. BBOWT must be happy with the activity a self-led group has proposed and its suitability for the site in question.
3. BBOWT is committed to providing the highest possible standard of service. Should it become necessary to cancel a staff-led visit as a result of unforeseen circumstances, such as staff illness, we will endeavour to work with you to make suitable alternative arrangements.
4. Group leaders have responsibility for the safety and supervision of their group at all times.
5. BBOWT is not responsible for any injury incurred by adults or children on self-led site visits (i.e. without a BBOWT staff member). All participants will need to be covered by their own insurance and the group leader must ensure that all activities are covered by this and that parental consent is obtained. Confirmation of a groups' public liability insurance must be given in writing to a BBOWT member of staff. Group leaders must undertake their own risk assessments and undertake a site pre-visit where necessary.
6. BBOWT will lead the activities during staff-led sessions. Any breaks will be supervised solely by leaders and helpers from the visiting group.
7. For BBOWT staff-led visits, BBOWT is covered by public liability insurance. However, please take care of your personal property as it is not covered by our insurance and we can take no responsibility for it.
8. The content of BBOWT staff-led sessions may vary depending on conditions and circumstances at the site on the day of the session.
9. Adults accompanying groups of children should be prepared to follow the instructions of BBOWT staff and help where possible.
10. In keeping with our environmental ethos, we ask visitors to take your rubbish and recycling home. At our education centres, you are welcome to leave organic waste for our compost heap.
11. In order to make your trip safe and successful, please ensure you complete all relevant sections of the booking form detailing any additional needs or specific medical information.

What BBOWT expect from you:

- Group leaders are entirely responsible for all aspects of Health and Safety during the visit including First Aid.
- We expect that you will produce your own task risk assessment prior to the visit. We also recommend you complete a risk assessment at the site on the day of the trip. BBOWT can provide a risk assessment for our site for guidance. You will also need to provide us with a site risk assessment if we come to your site.
- All groups will need to have their own public liability insurance cover and have confirmed this in writing to a BBOWT member of staff.
- You must ensure parental consent is obtained prior to a visit.
- For all sessions, to ensure safety on site we require the groups follow, as a minimum, these supervisory ratios:

3 - 4 years	1 : 3
5 - 7 years	1 : 6
7 - 11 years	1 : 8
11 - 18 years	1 : 12
- Ensure children and adult helpers are appropriately dressed for the season. Waterproofs and wellies are recommended whatever the weather.
- Treat our nature reserves and education centres with care and respect in order to protect wildlife and to preserve the site for other visitors .
- Remember to close gates behind you. At some sites, you may be asked to lock gates after your visit.
- Keep to marked footpaths and be careful where you tread.
- Wildflowers are protected by law, so please leave plants where they are and don't pick them to take home.
- Do not feed any livestock on site.
- Do not enter fields containing livestock. Follow access instructions on signs.



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What you can expect from BBOWT:

For BBOWT staff-led sessions, the member of staff will have a relevant first aid qualification and will carry a first aid kit, but visiting leaders and helpers remain primarily responsible for first aid whilst their groups are on site.

A risk assessment will be undertaken by a BBOWT member of staff for staff-led sessions at BBOWT sites. We will also provide a generic site risk assessment for self-led visits to BBOWT sites.

What next?

Once you have decided on a visit option, contact one of the following members of staff who will be able to give you site specific advice.

Berkshire: Daniel Akam, Community Wildlife Officer

berkshireeducation@bbowt.org.uk

01628 829574 ext 202

Buckinghamshire: Claire Garrity, Education Manager

collegelakeeducation@bbowt.org.uk

01442 826774 ext 206

Oxfordshire: Ceri Cadwallader, Education Manager

sceec@bbowt.org.uk

01235 862024



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