



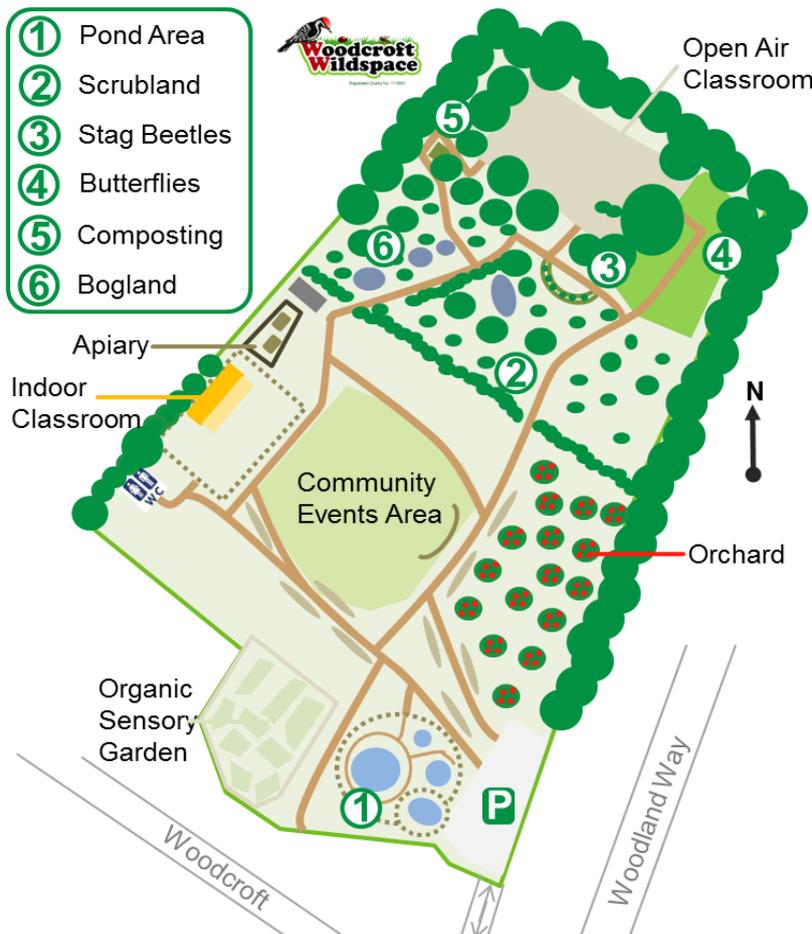
Woodcroft Educational Wildspace

School visit guide

2016

The space

Woodcroft Wildspace offers exciting opportunities for curriculum-linked learning sessions right on your doorstep. Set in 3.5 acres in the heart of Winchmore Hill, London N21 3PG, the enclosed wild space area consists of managed grassy and wooded areas, hedges and copses, an apiary, bogland, wells and ponds. Pupils are free to observe and examine a range of native wildlife including a variety of trees and plants, insects, vertebrates, birds and pond life. The small indoor classroom is available as a secure area to deposit bags and lunch boxes with a canopy in case of poor weather. A preliminary visit by staff to review the area and to plan activities is strongly recommended. A voluntary donation is suggested. See guideline at end.



About us

The Wildspace is a charity run by volunteers in collaboration with London Borough of Enfield. The area is open to the public from 9am-5pm daily. Volunteer sessions are every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday mornings. Visits are expected to last about 2 – 3 hours but times and dates are negotiable. As well as school nature visits, we can offer opportunities in Art, Business Studies, Marketing, English – please pass on our details to those staff who may be interested in these aspects of our work.

Supported learning sessions

When you arrive on an arranged visit, you will be greeted by our volunteer guides. They will help lead and support your interactive learning session and help you to capture your pupils' interest in nature and engage them with their environment. We offer examples of themes that can be followed:

Looking for pond life: Which mini-beasts live in a pond?

Pond dip into trays to examine invertebrates in detail. Spot the similarities and differences between them. How do they live?

Session length: 1 – 2 hours
Suitable for: Key Stage 1
Habitats: Identification : Classification :
Key Stage 3
Ecosystems: Differences between species

Looking at insects: Which insects live where?

Find out which insects can be found amongst the grass, under trees in leaf litter, on flowering plants, or in the insect hotels. How do they live and what depends upon them to live?

Session length: 1 – 2 hours
Suitable for: Key Stage 1 – Key Stage 2
Gathering: Recording : Habitats : Dependency :
Key Stage 3
Microhabitats : Ecosystems

Looking at plant life: Which types of plant can be found?

Find out how many varieties of plants can be found on site. Collect samples of specific plants and classify them by the way they look or by how they reproduce (tuber, seed, runner).

Session length: 1 – 2 hours

Suitable for:	Key Stage 1 – Key Stage 2 Habitats: Identification : Basic structure of variety of plants Key Stage 3 Differences between species : Ecosystems : Reproduction in Plants :
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It is recommended that supported learning sessions be booked at least four weeks in advance.



Children sat in the covered teaching area during a visit in June by a local School

Planning your visit

We encourage schools to contact us in advance so that we can help you:

- with a pre-prepared risk assessment;
- arrange a visit to review the space and its facilities;
- identify activities to undertake and materials that will be needed;
- meet us and ask questions;
- make sure that we are also prepared for you.

What to expect on the day

All our learning sessions are based outdoors so please ensure everyone dresses appropriately for the time of year. We recommend that everyone wears wellingtons in winter and trainers in summer. Wearing trousers to protect legs from possible nettle stings and thorn scratches recommended. Open footwear such as sandals or canvas shoes should not be worn.

We recommend no more than about 30 pupils plus staff on a visit. We provide scrap paper and clipboards, pond dipping equipment, protective gloves and tools, and tarpaulins to sit on, plus somewhere safe to store bags and an open sheltered area in which to eat. Please bring all the additional materials required for the learning session.

Toilets and somewhere to wash hands are provided but no food or drink is available to purchase on site. Please note there is no running water (we top up tanks manually) or any electricity on site. Further information is available at www.woodcroft.org.uk.

School visits : voluntary donation guidance

A charge of £1.00 per child is suggested; with a minimum 20 children assumed.

Site plan/accessibility

Minibuses may park on site, or on the road immediately outside the gates (Woodcroft). The terrain on site has paths but can be muddy, rough and bumpy. Wheelchair access is limited.

How to get to Woodcroft Wildspace

Try Enfield Council Community Transport Phone: [020 8363 2255](tel:02083632255)

Nearest public transport: Winchmore Hill overground rail (Hertford North to Moorgate Line), walk via Station Road, Hoppers Road (see below)

Buses 329 and 125 stop in Green Lanes

Walk via Compton Road, Hoppers Road, Downes Court, Woodland Way, Woodcroft

Contact the Woodcroft Education team

By email: education@woodcroft.org.uk

Tell us what you thought about your visit

We welcome and value your feedback. After your visit please take a moment to complete our Evaluation Form.



EVALUATION FORM

Name of your School:

Age Group(s):

Date of your Visit:

What worked well with the organisation of your visit?

What worked well as far as your pupils and their learning was concerned?

What could be improved?

Any other comments?

Please return this form to Woodcroft Wildspace, via education@woodcroft.org.uk