



Ashdown Forest Educational Opportunities



This leaflet details the opportunities available to schools to help them use Ashdown Forest as a teaching resource.

Whether requiring a tutor-led visit on the Forest, field equipment to help you run a self-guided session or resources suitable for classroom use, a number of options are available.

Ashdown Forest is steeped in history, rich in wildlife and beautiful whatever time of the year. Originally a deer hunting forest in Norman times, Ashdown Forest is now the largest free public access space in the South East and lies at the centre of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Open all year, it is a great place for walking and enjoying spectacular views over the Sussex countryside and is known the world over as the 'home' of Winnie-the-Pooh.



FREE RESOURCES

Winnie-the-Pooh Story Sack

A Winnie-the-Pooh Story Sack, suitable for Key Stage 1 pupils, can be borrowed to use in your school for up to 3 weeks. Ashdown Forest is the 'home' of this very famous bear and using A.A Milne's book, *The House at Pooh Corner*, as a springboard for activities, the Story Sack is full of cross-curricular resources and ideas. **You will need to book, collect and return the sack to the Ashdown Forest Centre.**



Nature v Nurture Debate Pack

Easy to use and designed to inform and promote discussion with Key Stage 2 children prior to, and during, a visit to Ashdown Forest. This Debate Pack looks at the key management issue of cutting down trees, aiming to promote awareness of Ashdown Forest itself and an understanding of why such action is needed. Children can consider different opinions and begin to make informed decisions about a relevant and often misinterpreted local issue. Download from www.ashdownforest.org

High Weald Outdoor Activity Cards

For fun ideas and activities, plus pertinent teaching points, 25 Outdoor Activity Cards are available to help children explore Ashdown Forest and the High Weald AONB. Download from www.ashdownforest.org

Renewable Energy Kit

A Renewable Energy Kit, suitable for Key Stages 1 - 3, is available to hire from the Ashdown Forest Centre. The kit is designed to support various aspects of the geography and science National Curriculum, is easy to assemble, interactive and engaging. Comprising a wind turbine, water turbine and solar panel, the kit can effectively demonstrate how renewable energy can be transformed into light, sound and kinetic forms. **You will need to book, collect and return the kit to the Ashdown Forest Centre.**



Please see overleaf for details of guided and self-guided visits to the Ashdown Forest Centre.



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VISITS TO THE ASHDOWN FOREST CENTRE

Option	Sussex Wildlife Trust Workshops		Self-Guided Visits	
	A	B	C	D
	Whole day 2 x 2hr sessions 10.00 –14.30 with lunch break	Half day 2 hour session 10.00–12.00 or 12.30–14.30	Times to suit you between 10:00–14:30	
Maximum number of children	2 groups – maximum of 30 per group	2 groups – maximum of 30 per group	60	60
Access to Explorer or Field Packs	No	No	Yes	No
Cost	£115 (for up to 30 pupils) £230 (for 31 – 60 pupils)	£65 (for up to 30 pupils) £130 (for 31–60 pupils)	£75	£65

Options A & B - Sussex Wildlife Trust Workshops, KS1 & KS2

All equipment is provided and the 'hands on' sessions are run by an experienced tutor from the Sussex Wildlife Trust. Activities include:

- mini-beast hunting & habitat studies
- mirror walk - find out about how the trees survive and the wildlife they support
- tracking activities - discover which creatures live on the Forest
- land use history - how has the Forest been used in the past?

All of our cross-curricular sessions can be tailored to suit your needs - just ask!

Options C & D - Self-Guided Visits

You are welcome to visit the Forest but carry out your own self-guided activities without the aid of a tutor. With Option C, you can hire equipment from us to support your teaching and learning. If you do not require any equipment or activity ideas choose Option D.

Explorer Packs - basic field work equipment is available to support your self-guided session. Download a list of available resources from www.ashdownforest.org fill in what you would like to use, send it back and the equipment will be ready on the day.

Field Packs - 'Beauty and the Beasts' (KS1), Ashdown Art (KS2) and Natural Numeracy (KS2) Field Packs have been put together for use on the Forest. Each Pack contains activity suggestions, instructions and enough equipment for approx 30 children. Let us know which Pack you would like to hire during your visit. Content outlines and further info. can be found at www.ashdownforest.org



All options include coach/car parking and toilet facilities as well as access to the:

Education Barn - A fully equipped classroom base for your visit - somewhere to store your things when out on the Forest and an area to work in or eat your packed lunch.

Information Barn - A display of information relating to the Forest and a small shop where you can purchase 'pocket money' items.

Please note that booking is required for ALL options.

Visits must be booked through the Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5JP.

Office opening hours: Weekdays 09.00-17.00

T: 01342 823583 E: tracy@ashdownforest.org
or download a booking form www.ashdownforest.org



Check out the Learning Zone at www.highweald.org