

Experience nature in close-up

# Environmental Discovery Courses



Outstanding environmental education courses for young people aged 8-13

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# About our Environmental Discovery Courses...

## An experience for life

Environmental Discovery Courses run by the Young People's Trust for the Environment (YPTE) are designed to give an invaluable educational experience to young people aged 8-13. They offer excellent tuition, a secure environment and experienced, well-trained and attentive tutors, who are enthusiastic about the natural world. This helps to create a unique experience which can have a real and deep-rooted impact on attitudes, interest and awareness. Young people also improve their social skills, building confidence and self-esteem through their learning.

## What can you expect?

Parties are split into groups of up to 14 and rotate around a programme of activities. YPTE provides one tutor per group, with the school providing another adult, giving a safe maximum ratio of 1:7.5 The courses provide an exciting, immersive experience which integrates many aspects of the National Curriculum. Summaries of typical activity days are shown on the opposite page. Activities are provided until around 9pm each evening, so the young people are always kept busy. Evening activities include camp fire, local ghost stories, a murder mystery and last night disco. For a downloadable full Mon-Fri programme (pdf format), please visit: [www.ypte.org.uk/files/sampleedcprog.pdf](http://www.ypte.org.uk/files/sampleedcprog.pdf)

## Safe, secure and exciting

Safety is obviously a key priority for any provider of residential activities for children. YPTE has over 25 years experience of operating its courses for young people and all activities are backed by full risk assessments. Tutors have been checked by the Criminal Records Bureau for their suitability for working with children.

## The Centre

We hold our courses at Brenscombe Outdoor Centre, near Corfe Castle in Dorset's beautiful Isle of Purbeck. The stunning scenery and huge diversity of habitats within a short distance of the centre make it a fantastic and inspiring base for our courses.





### Seashore Comparison Day

A visit to Studland beach and the rock pools of Kimmeridge Bay to compare the animal and plant life of the sandy beach and dunes with the rocky shore. Studland Beach is three miles of golden sand, with plenty of interesting shells to discover on the shoreline. There is also time to explore the dunes behind the beach and learn about how they are formed. Always a favourite, the rockpooling gives children the chance to get very hands-on with a wide variety of seashore life, including crabs, whelks, limpets and barnacles, as well as a diverse range of seaweeds.



### Arne Nature Reserve

A visit to the RSPB reserve on the Arne Peninsula. The reserve with its location on the edge of the second largest natural harbour in the world has an incredibly diverse range of animals and plants, which live in a variety of special habitats i.e. woodland, heath land, wet heath land and salt marsh. This is a great place to get near deer, bird life, mini beasts and dragonflies. Depending on time, this is combined with a close look at the ancient village of Worth Matravers with its stone cottages and stories of smugglers, shipwrecks and a visionary medical practitioner!



### Old Harry Rocks and Ballard Down

A walk from Swanage across the downs to the cliffs of Ballard Down and along to the Old Harry Rocks. The children see a terrific piece of the World Heritage Coastline and the wildlife of the chalk grassland on Ballard Down, then finish the walk with the opportunity for ice cream, shopping and games on Studland Beach.

## Prices and bookings

We aim to keep our prices as competitive as possible in order to ensure that young people receive the best value possible. Prices for 2010 will be £214 + VAT per child (subject to minimum group size of 25 pupils - costs for smaller groups may be higher) for a Monday to Friday course, with arrival at lunchtime on Monday and departure by 2pm on Friday. We offer one free adult place for every 15 students.

We are happy to provide a talk for parents prior to your visit and can also provide kit lists, programmes etc.



## Availability

We have possible vacancies from October 2010 to April 2011. Please contact us to find out more about availability by phoning on 01460 271717 or email us at [info@ypte.org.uk](mailto:info@ypte.org.uk).

## What teachers and young people say about our courses

'The children are just full of the experiences they had - they are going to share their week with the whole school in assembly next Monday.... it has spurred them on to do more to preserve our precious world.' *Deputy Headteacher, Lutley Primary School, Halesowen.*

'All the staff were brilliant, great with the kids and very helpful.' - *Senior teacher, West Acton Primary School, Acton*

'I loved breathing in the fresh air and getting covered in mud.' - *Child, Langbourne Primary School, London.*

'This has been the best week of my life -ever!' - *Child, Blair Peach Primary School, Southall*

