



Learning in Limestone Country 2005 – 08

A project celebrating the rich natural and cultural heritage of 'Limestone Country'



At the heart of the southern Yorkshire Dales National Park is 'Limestone Country'. With its stunning scenery, endangered flora and fauna and opportunities for outdoor learning, the area has much to offer. The aim of this project is to make Limestone Country more accessible to all. A key feature of the project is special access to English Nature's Ingleborough National Nature Reserve (NNR) and the Malham Tarn NNR owned by the National Trust.

The project is a partnership between Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, English Nature, Field Studies Council, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and Craven College. Each organisation is providing relevant expertise, skilled staff and specialist knowledge to make the programme successful and safe for all.

This project is supported by funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and English Nature.

Schools Out

We can offer local schools and schools from West Yorkshire and North Lancashire a range of KS 2 + 3 interpreted day visits to heritage sites in the project area. We will provide access to nature reserves and historic sites and offer quality experiences based on interpretation, investigation and self-discovery. These will be supported by specially produced educational materials linked to the National Curriculum. Activities will be provided by experienced education staff and local people with an intimate knowledge of the area. The main educational themes in the project area will be:

- *Walking with Wildlife – wildlife habitats and ecology*
- *Landscape Explorers – the geology and physical landscape*
- *Signs of the Times – historic sites, events and human activity*



Preliminary classroom sessions are available to prepare groups for the outdoor visit.

Community Links



We wish to engage with communities locally and throughout West Yorkshire and North Lancashire to increase opportunities for groups to access, appreciate and learn about the National Nature Reserves and surrounding countryside. Our Community Officer will offer a range of activities including events, walks and projects linked to the Schools Out themes.

An exciting challenge will be to involve individuals and groups who currently do not visit the area for financial, physical or cultural reasons. The aim of this programme is to overcome barriers to participation and enable all sectors of society to visit and enjoy the area.

Training

A separate programme of events is being developed with Craven College. Specialist tutors and staff from the partner organisations will provide opportunities for training in heritage and conservation skills.

There is the potential to develop courses or events to meet special interests and needs please contact us for information.



What we can offer

- A tailor-made range of activities for schools and community groups
- Help with the costs of transport
- Provision of outdoor clothing and equipment
- Specialist staff from YDMT, English Nature, Field Studies Council and Craven College
- Field Studies Council systems for safe outdoor activities

Please contact Project staff if you are interested in participating in the programme or require more information.

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