

# JOHN MUIR DISCOVER AWARD

## Summer Holiday Family Challenge



Thanks for registering for the John Muir Award!

The John Muir Award is an 'environmental award scheme for people of all backgrounds – groups, families, individuals. It's non-competitive, inclusive and accessible.'

'The engagement initiative encourages people to connect with, enjoy, and care for wild places'.

To achieve a John Muir Award, each family must:

- Complete **four challenges** – Discover, Explore, Conserve, Share
- Complete the required **time commitment**
- Show **enthusiasm** and commitment towards their involvement
- Have an **awareness of John Muir**

Understand what the **John Muir Award** is and why they are participating

We would love to help your family complete your John Muir Discovery Award over the school summer holidays and, even though we cannot deliver group activities, to we would like to support you digitally.

Please take a look at the John Muir Proposal form that we have filled in for you below. This will give you some idea of the types of activities we will be inspiring you to complete. The John Muir Trust requires a copy of a completed proposal form before starting each John Muir Award challenge, and so we have done this first step for you so that you will be ready to start the Award at the start of the summer holidays. **We are looking forward to finding out how your family will spend the 25 hours of activity achieving the four challenges (Discover, Explore, Conserve and Share).** The activity and challenges are all suggestions, and we would encourage this challenge to be family led so it is up to yourselves to choose what suits based on location and family life.

**You will receive an email, via MailChimp, every Monday morning.** These emails will focus on a **theme** (minibeasts and pollinators; plants; birds; Pendle Hill at night; and Archaeology and local history), and they will **provide information, activities and ideas about how you may want to spend your 5 hours for that week - exploring, discovering, conserving and sharing.** You can get involved in the activity either in your local park or countryside area, or in your private garden (if you have one).

**Below are a few points we want you to know:**

- We will provide you with **web links to lots of resources**. In some cases, these may be resources we have produced ourselves. In other cases, they may be resources that other charities and organisations have produced and are freely available online. These other organisations may include The Wildlife Trust, the Woodland Trust, RSPB, the Butterfly Conversation Trust and Bumblebee Conservation Trust.
- We hope that by getting involved in this summer holiday challenge, your family will learn more about your local 'wild place', nature and heritage. There are many **benefits to being in the outdoors**, and we want everyone to experience these! When all children return to school, they will have an exciting adventure to tell their friends and teachers about.
- Because of the nature of the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership project, this award is focused towards those who live locally within or around this area – these include parts of the **Ribble Valley, Pendle, Burnley and Hyndburn**. We can provide information about local parks and countryside areas in these locations. However, if you live further afield and are happy to get involved then that is absolutely fine by us!
- As well as weekly emails, we, Jayne Ashe and Alison Cross (PHLP Community Engagement Officer and Outdoor Learning Officer), will be available to **support via phone and email**, please note we work Monday to Friday, 9-5, so will get back to you ASAP. Contact details at the bottom.
- We are also planning to host an introductory online Zoom session, within the first week of the award, on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 5 pm**. If you would like to join us please follow the link from the email you received, or get in touch to request the link.
- We will also plan to host another Zoom session at the end of the summer, to round up and share our experiences. Dependent on interest, we also plan to set up a **private Facebook group**, where you can share your activities and experiences with other families completing the Award. We will also be completing our John Muir Discovery Award so will be sharing what we get up to!
- Every week we will be asking you to **share photos and videos** with us of what you have been getting up to for the Award. If you are happy, we will ask for permissions to share this on the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership social media and website (but this is not mandatory!). In the first email, we will also link through to an online record book, which you will be able to add to throughout the challenge and share with us at the end. It is super important that we see some evidence of your family completing the John Muir award before we send off for your certificates at the beginning of September!
- **Weekly emails will be sent via Mailchimp**. To ensure you receive these emails please follow the link from the email you received or get in touch to request the link.

**Whilst completing this award, and whenever spending time in the countryside, please remember to always keep to the Countryside Code. Please never trespass on private land, keep to public footpaths or bridleways and we would recommend making use of your local town park (please don't hesitate to ask us for more information about the local parks and countryside space). Please always ensure you follow the latest government guidelines, stay alert and stay safe.**

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code/the-countryside-code>

