

Volunteer Role Profile

Volunteer Role	Schools Outreach Assistant (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)
Volunteer Manager	Education, Family and Youth Team
Where you will be based	Community

Why we want you

The RSPB is the UK's largest nature conservation charity! Join our fantastic volunteers who are helping to inspire everyone to give nature a home and secure a healthy environment for wildlife. We will help you gain skills and give you an invaluable insight into our essential work.

As part of the RSPB's aim to connect as many children as possible to nature, we'll be visiting primary schools and Early Years settings armed and ready to deliver our inspiring outreach sessions. They are designed to give teachers and their pupils all the support they need to explore the natural world around them.

The sessions are fun and interactive, allowing plenty of opportunities for first-hand experiences of nature whether it be bug hunting, birdwatching or finding daisies.

We have 3 different workshops for children in Years 1 to 6.

Bioblitz, Habitat Explorer and Wild Words. Each workshop lasts 60-90 minutes and is focussed on learning outdoors.

We also offer specially developed Early Years sessions lasting about 90 minutes, including activities such as minibeast hunts and sensory activities.

We are looking for volunteers to help us to deliver this ambitious project. Following a period of shadowing experienced session leaders, you will be leading sessions with a class of children and their teacher, inspiring them to get up close to what creeps, crawls and flies in their school grounds.

Alternatively, as a Session Assistant, you would help the session leader with the task, including preparing and tidying resources and providing hands-on support for the children.

What you will be doing

- Deliver high quality standardised learning activities to primary school children and/or children in Early Years settings.
- Engage with the participants to inspire them about wildlife.
- Facilitate the participants' learning during the activity.
- Assist with equipment and resource maintenance.

- Assist with feedback and evaluation.
- Attend an initial induction and training session and participate in occasional skills development opportunities.

The skills you need

- Abundant enthusiasm, with the ability to communicate your passion for the natural world to help connect children with nature.
- Some experience of working with young people. All volunteers will require a referee who can vouch for their suitability to work with children.
- A resourceful and flexible approach to be able to engage with primary-aged children of all abilities.
- An interest in wildlife and some knowledge of conservation and the natural environment.
- A willingness to learn new skills.
- Well organised, with effective communication skills to liaise with other volunteers and schools.
- Confidence to travel independently to schools and positively represent the RSPB.
- Computer literacy - ability to use e-mail, internet, word processing.
- Some knowledge of wildlife gardening.
- Basic wildlife identification skills, we can support you gain knowledge in this area.
- Equipment required - Ideally you would have access to the internet and a current, regularly checked email address is essential as this is how we will contact you with working requests and important information updates. We can support you to gain computer access or use other communication routes.

What's in it for you

- Experience and training in the sessions on offer.
- Knowledge that the role you will be carrying out will be playing a vital part in inspiring young people about the natural world.
- Experience of working with young people for a well-known environmental charity.
- Knowing that you are helping young people's learning.
- Relevant training for the role eg safeguarding, risk assessments, H & S.
- You will be a valuable member of a professional team.
- The RSPB will provide:
 - Regular line management support (appraisals, 1:1 meetings).
 - Training in delivery of the specific sessions on offer.
 - Access to existing RSPB resources and educational products.

Disclaimer

Suitable for under 18's.

Mandatory training: GDPR 1, Safeguarding 1 and 2,

The RSPB will reimburse you for out of pocket expenses travel expenses, we will provide the equipment, training and any uniform needed for you to complete the role

We're now the largest nature conservation charity in the country, consistently delivering successful conservation, forging powerful new partnerships with other organisations and inspiring others to stand up and give nature the home it deserves. We rely on the support and generosity of our volunteers to make a difference

Our work stretches far beyond the UK. Wherever wildlife is in threat, we'll work with partners across the globe to help save it and give it a home.