

Outstanding Junior Park Rangers Award

The following ideas are only suggestions of activities that can contribute to earning the 'Outstanding Junior Rangers Award'. Note, this is not a checklist! You do not have to complete everything listed below in order to win the award.

Raise awareness about issues in the parks:

- Organise a poster competition at school to highlight an issue in your local park, like littering, vandalism, or dog mess
- Raise awareness of how people can use our parks in a responsible way (pick up after your dog, take your rubbish home with you, keep your dogs on a lead when grazing animals are around, etc.)
- Talk to your school about the important issue of water safety and invite a member of the the outdoor learning team in to share the Trust's water safety assembly
- Share your Countryside Code poster and ask how your school can help take care of the environment

Help Wildlife

- Build a bug hotel in your school grounds
- Put up bird boxes and/or bat boxes in your school grounds
- Build a wildlife garden at school
- Participate in the local MKHogwatch project and survey for hedgehogs in your school grounds in October and May or r take part in the National RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch in January
- Keep a journal of the changes that occur throughout the seasons in your local park. You could choose one particular spot in your local park and visit it every few weeks, take a picture from the same spot each time, and record the date and any changes you see (For example: leaves falling off the trees, birds migrating, frog spawn, etc.). You can then submit what you find to www.naturescalendar.org.uk to help build a record of how the UK's climate is changing and how that affects our plants and animals.

Encourage your peers to get out and about in the parks

- Run photography competitions at your school. You could choose themes relating to the seasons, like 'Signs of spring in your local park', 'Fabulous Autumn fungi' or 'Winter park wonderland'
- Advertise The Parks Trust events around school. Look at The Parks Trust website (www.theparkstrust.com) to find out more about events that are coming up
- Put up wildlife 'what to spot' or identification/information sheets up on your noticeboard. You could create and put up things like 'Tree ID', 'Winter bird ID' or 'What to spot in summer'.

Please feel free to add your own ideas to this list. If you have any questions about the Award please email jpr@theparkstrust.com