

# Epping Forest Field Centre

## Key Stage 3 Geography Courses

Our courses deliver National Curriculum requirements. Each course uses geographical enquiry and skills in relation to knowledge and understanding of places, patterns and processes. The programmes offer students the opportunity to:

- Carry out a geographical enquiry fieldwork investigation
- Work outside the classroom.
- Select and use appropriate fieldwork techniques.
- Collect primary data and use secondary evidence

Choose from the range of Courses listed.

- Led by friendly and well trained tutors
- Knowledge and understanding of the natural environment
- Fieldwork skills and techniques
- Comprehensive Health and Safety procedures
- Free staff places

For more information or to make a booking contact  
Epping Forest Field Centre on 020 8502 8500.

Courses cost £14 per person (March to November) and £12 per person (December to February), subject to a minimum fee of £260 per taught group. Course content is for a day visit, typically arriving by 10am, leave 3.30pm. Tailor made courses, including half day activities are available, and changes to timings can be discussed.

The Centre's purpose built facilities offer superb opportunities for field study in the heart of Epping Forest.

All of our courses are led by experienced Tutors selected for their knowledge and expertise as well as their relaxed and friendly manner

**Epping Forest Field Centre**

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Registered Charity Number: 313364

Managed by FSC for and on behalf of the City of London Corporation, Conservators of Epping Forest.

**FSC**

BRINGING  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
UNDERSTANDING TO ALL

## An Introduction to Geographical Skills

The day is designed to allow students to gain practical experience in geographical skills and techniques. Using map skills the students will navigate to a number of sites to undertake small scale fieldwork projects using a range of equipment. Fieldwork includes:

- Map and compass skills
- Data collection from the Weather Station
- Investigation of the impact of visitors on the forest, using sampling techniques and quadrats.

## River Basin Geomorphology

The course investigates changes in river channel and drainage characteristics at three sites along the river. Students plan an investigation and collect and record data at each site. Fieldwork includes:

- field measurements of velocity, channel width and depth, bedload size and shape
- field sketching of landforms
- observation of human impact on river sites

Follow up work:

- graphical presentation of field measurements
- discussion of changes in characteristics downstream

*Loughton Brook available September to April NB water levels early in the season can be very low. Debden Brook available throughout the year, needs transport all day.*

## Woodland Ecosystems

An investigation of how physical and human processes influence vegetation, including the relationship with climate, soil and human activity. Past management and current practices are discussed. Fieldwork includes:

- random sampling of vegetation using quadrats and recording percentage cover
- tree recording (canopy cover, height, girth and density)
- soil profile recording of soil type

Follow up work:

- data presentation techniques
- use of secondary data to explain patterns and draw conclusions

## Changing Characteristics of Settlements\*

A study of Waltham Abbey, a small market town. Students collect data which can explain the location and growth of the settlement, the provision of goods and services and patterns and changes in land use. Fieldwork can include:

- land use mapping of the town centre
- use of environmental indices to determine the CBD e.g. environmental quality
- pedestrian counts
- collection of evidence from historical landmarks

Follow up work:

- presentation of data as maps e.g. choropleth maps, flow diagrams of pedestrian movement

## The Causes and Effects of a Flood Hazard\*

Students investigate the effect of flooding on the town of Loughton. The human responses to the floods of 1982 which caused £2.6million damage are seen in the field and their effectiveness is discussed. Fieldwork can include:

- overland flow experiment to provide data for a storm hydrograph
- observation and field sketching of flood prevention measures

Follow up work:

- discussion of the effectiveness of the flood scheme
- graphical presentation of river measurements

## Recreation in Epping Forest

Past and present impacts of recreation on 'honey pot' sites are investigated. Management of the sites for the aims of conservation and recreation is evaluated and management plans can be considered. Processes of succession are discussed. Fieldwork includes:

- assessment of trampling through vegetation surveys and measurement of soil compaction
- environmental assessment of public pressure and management
- visits to selected habitat management sites

Follow up work:

- interpretation of secondary data including maps, photos, newspaper articles, data presentation