

Primary Outdoor Learning

An experience to remember.

Our primary school trips, at **Field Studies Council Blencathra** get children involved and engaged in the outdoors, taking part in hands-on, safe experiences. Let them enjoy adventures they will remember forever with a school field trip and more:

- Increase interaction with nature, building confidence and resilience through activities and challenges



- Encourage communication skills and develop social bonding with team building challenges
- Introduce measured risk taking to encourage independent thinking and personal achievement
- Tackle the growing indoor culture which is adding to the UK's nature deficit disorder

Outdoor learning sample programme

This is an example of our residential offer. We have a range of exciting activities we use to tailor the experience to achieve your specific learning outcomes. Please see overleaf for additional activity options that you can select to extend your stay or swap with those in the example.

Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Day 1		
Late morning arrival with own packed lunch onsite	Outdoor Team Challenges An exciting and challenging introduction to the concepts of working well together, using a wide variety of fun activities and puzzles.	Mammal Trapping Get up close to secretive small mammals. Have a go at setting and trapping your own small mammals on the centre grounds.
Day 2		
Start the day by finding out what spent the night in the mammal traps and release them back into the wild.	Geo journey On an expedition through the local landscape, children will challenge themselves to uncover the mysteries of our countryside. They will use digital technologies and apply their geographical knowledge to a series of exciting activities which will deepen their curiosity and understanding of the natural world.	Compass Orienteering Using key orienteering skills to explore inspirational landscapes, children will quickly and accurately navigate their teams through challenges and problems. Developing map reading, orientation, and compass abilities, they will gain confidence in finding their way through unfamiliar terrain.
Day 3		
Morning: Wilderness Bushcraft Pupils to discover what they would need to survive a night in the wild. They will work in teams to build their own shelters and have a go at lighting a fire using natural materials. An optional roundhouse activity can also be incorporated.	Eat packed lunch onsite before departure from the centre.	<div data-bbox="1300 1736 1556 1993"> Discover adventure in learning </div> <div data-bbox="957 1859 1340 2128"> <p>"The activities were engaging and there was the right mix of learning and having fun."</p> <p>Teacher</p> </div>

Depending on numbers activities may need to rotate each day to allow each child the chance to participate.

1 activity provided for each night of your stay.

Replace any of the half day outdoor learning activities above with these:

Outdoor Learning Daytime Activities – half day or full day	
Curious coastal creatures	Children will delve into the fascinating world of the seashore and enjoy active enquiry games to consider the adaptations and lifecycles of the animals they find in this unique habitat. Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically, rocks, living things and their habitats, animals including humans</i>
Disappearing animals (half day or evening)	Children will discover the world of wildlife hidden within the landscape, and explore the busy world of wildlife that crawls, flies, walks and hops throughout the countryside. There may be opportunities to use IT to detect bats at dusk, as well as live trapping and observation of small mammals. Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically, evolution</i>
Eco-action	Children will take part in exciting sensory games and activities to help build a bond with the natural landscape. They will participate in some active conservation or habitat management, such as bird box building or pond restoration. Children will consider human impacts on the environment and sustainability. Curriculum links: <i>geography skills, human and physical geography, personal development- mental, spiritual, social, emotional</i>
Exploring place	Children will build their spatial and locational knowledge and use innovative ways to answer their own geographical questions, such as: What makes this place special? How is it connected to my place? Why is it like this? Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically, geography skills, rocks, human and physical geography</i>
Literacy through landscapes	Improve literacy skills by exploring poetry and stories and a combination of tactile and visual experiences. Children will create characters, develop plots, and generate ideas to form a story of their own. Curriculum links: <i>writing: planning, narratives, evaluation, tenses, verbs, spelling, grammar and vocabulary, spoken English: giving short speeches, expressing own ideas, building on what was said before, poetry, adding impact</i>
Maps and geometry	Activities introducing the geometry of the Earth and basic mapping techniques will outline the science of map making. Children will use IT and a range of different maps, to explore spatial dimensions, angles, shapes and distances, while relating these concepts to the landscape surrounding them, for example within relief, contours and scales. They construct 2D and 3D maps, to different scales and find out which maps are most useful in different situations, as well as considering the history of map making. Curriculum links: <i>geography skills</i>
Nature's numbers	Children will become maths detectives, discovering the numbers and patterns hidden in nature. They will take part in mathematical games, finding patterns in snail shells, symmetry in leaves, angles in trees and fractions within animal populations. This session will use the environment to inspire children, improving their mathematical literacy and problem-solving skills. Curriculum links: <i>geometry, fractions, decimals, percentages, measurement and symmetry.</i>
Rivers and life everywhere	Using a variety of engaging activities, children will discover the physical geography and river processes, which have formed this distinctive habitat. Working scientifically to gather data children will ask questions to build a picture of the river and the life that surrounds it. They will journey beside and within the watery world, discovering the plants and animals that make rivers and streams their homes. Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically, geography skills, evolution, human and physical geography</i>

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Secret Ponds	Delve into the unseen watery depths to discover the life teeming beneath the surface. Children will explore pond margins for signs of life and investigate the life support systems behind the abundance of pond invertebrates hidden from everyday view. Curriculum links <i>working scientifically, plants, living things and their habitats, animals including humans, evolution.</i>
Think like a scientist	Through a series of hands-on, outdoor experiments and activities, children will explore scientific ideas and what it means to work scientifically. They will invent, discover, trial and test, while learning how to think like a scientist and work in teams. Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically</i>
Tree-mendous	Children will discover forests, woodlands and meadows on a sensory level as well as through games and investigations, looking for the clues that make trees and plants special. They will see the fascinating features of plants and find out what plants need to survive and how plants work. Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically, plants, living things and their habitats, evolution.</i>
Evening activities	
Night walk	Children will use their senses to explore the inspiring dusk environment and discover the wildlife that inhabits our nocturnal world. Curriculum links: <i>working scientifically, living things and their habitats</i>
Star gazing	Viewing the night sky, children will find out more about the moon, stars and planets of the solar system (weather dependent) Curriculum links: <i>space</i>
Music, stories and campfire	Gather together around the fire, for an evening of entertainment, stories and music, with a hot chocolate. Curriculum links: <i>personal development</i>





Blencathra Field Centre occupies a dramatic setting 300m up the south facing slope of Blencathra in the Lake District National Park, and offers an unparalleled panorama across the Keswick, Helvellyn and Skiddaw areas.

With picnic, campfire and ball game areas, the Centre provides plenty of facilities for children in between their activities. Primary pupils may also be able to enjoy learning in our outdoor classroom.

Breakfast and dinner are freshly cooked, providing healthy meals that can be adapted for most dietary requirements.

What's included

- Expert tuition from our tutors
- An action-packed programme
- Comfortable, indoor accommodation for up to 120 guests, in a mix of dormitories and en-suite rooms
- Homemade, healthy meals, with all dietary concerns taken care of
- Generous classroom space
- Common room areas
- One free teacher place for every 12 children
- 24-hour duty system

2025 Pricing

	Off peak November to February	Standard March-May / August - October	Peak June and July
2 nights	£179/pupil	£231/pupil	£263/pupil
3 nights	£236/pupil	£314/pupil	£352/pupil
4 nights	£294/pupil	£389/pupil	£441/pupil

Please contact us to find out about special offers for 2024

Contact us

To check dates for your group at Blencathra

Phone: 01743 852100 Email: enquiries@field-studies-council.org

Enquire online: www.field-studies-council.org/primary-residentials