





Peak District National Park Year of Green Action – Example Project

This sample project offers you a number of activities that can be undertaken on their own or followed as an ongoing programme throughout the year.

	Activity	Time taken	Resources
1.	Introduction to the Peak District National Park & Year of Green Action	20 – 30 mins	Use 'PDNP Intro' power-point & Notes. Need PC, projector & screen
2.	Outdoor activities to explore and appreciate the outdoors	20 – 40 mins per activity	3 activities provided; you need an outdoor space
3.	Take part in a survey or play nature bingo	30 mins – 3 hours	Online links provided. Can be done in your local outdoor space
4.	Take part in a litter pick, maybe play litter bingo	30 mins – 2 hours	Can be done in your grounds, local outdoor space or elsewhere
5.	Organise a fund-raising activity, apply for a grant, or just ask for donations	?	Look at 'Funding for Communities' for links to funding
6.	Complete a practical, conservation task such as painting bird boxes or making a sculpture trail	30 mins – 3 hours	Links to resources and instructions provided. Materials required.
7.	Undertake a celebratory event to showcase your rejuvenated, outdoor space	3 – 4 hours	
8.	Organise a trip to the Peak District National Park	½ or full day	Contact the PDNP if you would like to have a guided trip
9.	Share your activities with @peakdistrict		

You might like to consider completing a <u>John Muir Award</u> whilst undertaking your environmental action. The Award is completely free to undertake and will support you in your project.

You will need to carefully plan, risk assess and supervise all activities.

- Introduce the Peak District National Park and the Year of Green Action
- 2. Discover your outdoor environment with some or all of the following activities:

Special Spot (Outside in a natural space)

Make sure all phones are turned off.

Take time out to sit on your own, in silence, within a defined area. Listen to the sounds that you can hear, focus on those nearby and those far away. What can you see? Look up, down and all around. Can you feel anything? Be sure to empty your minds of all other thoughts. Sit for at least 3 minutes.

When everyone returns, ask them to describe in one word how they feel / felt.

You can then talk a little about how being outside and immersed in nature is natural to us; it makes us feel at one and relaxed. It is in our ancestry. The hustle & bustle of everyday life can get a bit much. Sometimes it is good to get back to basics and to nature.

Resources –none

Time – at least 3 minutes to sit in silence and another 5 to 10 minutes to discuss afterwards

Early Explorers (Outside)

Ask the young people to find something that can move on its own and something that can't, both natural. (Specimen jars are useful for this). Imagine that you are the first people ever to have seen these things before. Describe them, give them a name. What do you think they do best?

Resources—specimen jars

<u>Time</u> - 10 minutes for the young people to discover their specimens and another 10 minutes to look at them all

Make your own National Park (Outside)

This works well once the young people have an idea of the sort of things found in the NP such as crags, moorland, wildlife etc...

Ask the young people to make their own mini NP. What do they want to put in it, to protect (conserve)? What do they want to keep out of it? Will it have a barrier? (You can give them a small length of string to make the boundary). Will they promote opportunities for people to enjoy it?

Take a walk around to see everyone's park. This works quite well when done in pairs.

Resources – possibly lengths of string for each group

<u>Time</u> – 20 to 30 minutes to make the Parks, another 20 minutes to look around them all

- **3.** Take part in a survey, either in your own grounds, open spaces nearby, or come into the National Park:
 - Opal Survey
 - Moors For the Future survey
 - Bird Track
 - Citizen Science

You will need to visit the web page beforehand and decide where and when you can do the survey. If it is not in your usual area, you will need to think about access, risk assessments and transport, amongst other things. You may need parental consent if the activity is different to those you usually offer.

Spend time recording and comparing results. If possible, send your results into the relevant organisation.

You could play <u>nature bingo</u>

4. Have a <u>litter-pick</u> to tidy up your chosen space. You could make this into a competition or list all of the different types of litter you have found. Maybe you could look at reusing the litter.

You could register for #GBSpringClean 22^{nd} March -23^{rd} April This could be linked in with National Parks Week, $6-21^{st}$ April Or Youth Social Action Day on 5^{th} June

- **5.** Organise a fund raising event. This might be a bag-pack in a local store, a car-wash for the parents and guardians or simply asking for donations.
- **6.** Complete your practical conservation task.

Buy some resources to enhance your chosen space. You could buy bird feeders and food or bird boxes: Maybe <u>build your own</u>, or buy them ready-made and <u>paint them</u> to add a personal touch:

Or make recycled bird feeders out of plastic bottles.

You could get crafty and get the young people to create their own sculpture trail.

- **7.** Plan an event to enjoy your chosen space. This could be a picnic, football tournament, BBQ or another survey / exploratory day inviting families and friends. Maybe have your own Birdwatch Day.
- **8.** Maybe have a celebratory visit to the Peak District National Park. Please contact me if you would like support in planning a trip or look at the <u>educational trips</u> we offer.
- **9.** Share your activities with @peakdistrict

You will need to carefully plan, risk assess and supervise all activities.

How the Activities Link to **Scout** Badges

Badge	Activity
Artist Activity	Art could be included in activities 2, 6 or 7
Craft Activity	Activity 6. You could also make recycled furniture out of pallets.
Environmental	The whole programme of activities would be perfect for this badge
Conservation	and also the John Muir Award
Forester	Identifying trees could be included in activities 2, 3 and 7
Fundraising	This badge could be completed in activity 5
Geocaching	Geocaching could be included in activities 2 & 7
Hill Walker	You could include a trip to the Peak District National Park as one of
	the planned journeys
Naturalist	Activities 7 or 8 could help if the activities were at least a day long
Orienteering	Activity 7 could be an orienteering event which could count towards
	this
Photographer	Photos could be taken in a number of the activities and used for the
	badge
Activity Centre	This would fit really well with the John Muir Award
Service	

How the Activities Link to **Guide** Badges

Badge	Activity
Campaigning	You could continue the good work with campaigning to encourage
	others to undertake some positive action to help the environment
Geocaching	Geocaching could be included in activities 2 & 7
Navigator	Navigation could be included in activities 7 & 8
Photography	Photos could be taken in a number of the activities and used for the
	badge
Upcycling	Activities 4, 6 & 7 would fit well