

C3-C3B Derwent Explorers

Project Summary	The project provided opportunities for selected young people to go on an adventure into the Derwent Valley. They planned and carried out a residential visit to a remote hostel in woods in the Lower Derwent Valley, gaining the knowledge and confidence in the process to enable them to make further visits to the project area with family and friends. Evidence from consultation process with communities and schools has shown there is a need for this work.	
Lead Organisation	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	
Partners	Main partner is the Lindley Trust Other partners; Derbyshire County Council, Grith Pioneers, Derby University students	
Location	Participating Schools/groups in the Derwent Valley and Derby	
Duration of project	Date: April 2014 – December 2018 Yrs: 1-5	
Total cost of project	£40,609.00	
Volunteer time In-kind time	£6128.00 -	
Outputs	<p>Original target</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 residential visits • 5 family/ carer gatherings • 240 school children engaged • 1 'heritage spotters trail' 	<p>Achieved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 residential trips • 712 children / young adults and adults engaged • 1 'heritage spotters trail'
Headlines/added value	<p>Not only did this project reach young people from the Derwent Valley it reached young people and adults from Derby too. Participants included those from the YMCA and St Andrews Special school in Derby. The trips were adapted to suit the participants attending.</p> <p>No. of schools engaged - 12 No. of community groups - 8</p>	
Outcomes	<p>The 397 participants who attended the trips all benefited from spending time outside, benefitting their health and wellbeing. Many new skills were learnt during the trips including lighting fires, den building and in some cases making basic woodland furniture. Many groups demonstrated team work, and bonded together to help each other to overcome varying perceived obstacles and challenges. Many participants left with an increased sense of wellbeing and confidence in the outdoor environment. Almost all wanting to return.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C4 <i>Increased opportunities</i> for access as part of <i>formal education</i> (through schools), fostering the conservationists of the future • C5 Opportunities for people in <i>areas subject to deprivation</i>, and in <i>traditionally hard to reach groups</i>, to engage with all elements of 	

	<p>the scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1 The perpetuation of <i>traditional crafts</i> necessary for the maintenance of the landscape • D2 Opportunities for <i>local people to develop skills</i> to enable them to engage with their local landscape and its conservation, and benefit from personal development and improved employment prospects • D3 Increased <i>knowledge</i>
Lessons Learnt	The moving of supplies for all participants to the hostel was physically demanding, additional staff and volunteers would have been helpful for this task. In addition, some sessions could have included more options to suit such a varying audience.
Any recommendations going forward	The continuation of a similar programme would be a huge benefit the health and wellbeing of any participants.