

**Volunteer Role:** Summer Leys Wildlife Watch Volunteer Leader

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| **Support Person** | Communities and Wildlife Officer (3 counties) and current Summer Leys Wildlife Watch volunteer leaders  [watch@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:watch@wildlifebcn.org) |
| **Role Purpose** | The purpose of this role is to work as part of a team to support the running of the Summer Leys Wildlife Watch group. This is a monthly group for children aged around 8-11, and their families, who are interested in wildlife. It is run by volunteers, and supported by the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. There are similar groups across the three counties.  The kind of activities the group undertake are:   * Pond dipping * Practical habitat management like scrub clearance using tools * Bat walks |
| **Specific Tasks** | * Planning and preparing monthly sessions (including risk assessments) * Promoting monthly sessions * Supporting delivery of monthly sessions * Dealing with administration such as collecting money and recording numbers |
| **Skills and Qualities Needed** | Volunteers will come from a wide range of backgrounds and will have many different qualities and skills. Essential skills and qualities for this role are:   * Welcoming and friendly manner * Experience around young people * Willingness to work outside in all weathers * Some knowledge of local wildlife * Enthusiasm about nature and environmental issues * Ability to get to Summer Leys and Lings Nature reserves independently   Since this role involves working with children and young people, for safeguarding reasons, we require volunteers to provide two references and to complete a DBS check |
| **Commitment** | The monthly sessions are usually 11am-12.30pm on a Sunday morning. Volunteers usually arrive half an hour before and leave half an hour after, in order to set up and tidy away.  Planning sessions will happen at a separate time as agreed with the other leaders. |
| **Support and Training** | We will provide a staged induction with the opportunity to see the current volunteer leaders in action, before progressing to taking on more responsibility. First-aid and safeguarding training will be provided as a minimum, and additional training as required can be provided. |
| **Expectations of WTBCN Volunteers** | 1. Willingness to abide by the Wildlife Trust BCN’s Policies and Procedures 2. Willingness to use support systems 3. Co-operation with administrative tasks 4. Commitment to attend on-going training |
| **Location of volunteering** | Monthly sessions usually run from Summer Leys Nature Reserve which is between Great Doddington and Wollaston, with occasional sessions from Lings Nature Reserve in Northampton.  Training may happen in other locations. |

Task Description Updated: *15th May 2019*