

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

Family Engagement

Why do we need you?

As part of our Learning team you will help deliver engaging nature based activities for families and groups visiting during weekends and school holidays.

At WWT we believe that the best way for people to understand and connect to wetlands is to experience them, so we bring awe-inspiring nature up close and let it do the talking. At Slimbridge Wetland Centre visitors can explore unique wetland habitats and the amazing array of birds, mammals and amphibians that inhabit them. Our volunteers help to welcome and inspire visitors, and look after our unique habitats and heritage.

Who will be responsible for your role?	Learning Manager
Where will you be based?	WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre
How much time will it take?	Volunteer sessions are a minimum of 4 hours, and are likely to be at weekends and during school holidays.

What will you be doing?

- Assisting in delivering themed activities and/or workshops for families during event weekends and school holiday periods.
- Supervising afternoon pond dipping sessions during the summer holidays.
- Helping to prepare and supervise art and craft activities within our new Create & Connect exhibit (opening 2020).
- Delivering Really Wild Birthday party activities. Summer/Spring party activities include amphibian handling, pond dipping and feeding the birds. Autumn/Winter activities include amphibian handling, nature explorer activity (binocular in hides, sound guns in grounds, spotter sheet) and feeding the birds.
- Answering visitor queries about family activities and the wider Centre.

Who are we looking for?

This role will suit you if you:

- Enjoy working with families and children
- Have good communication skills and an outgoing personality
- Have a willingness to talk to visitors both on a one-to-one level and to larger groups
- Are interested in education related activities and the natural environment
- Have previous experience of delivering family events (although not essential)
- Have excellent customer service skills
- Are happy volunteering on your own initiative under the direction of the Learning Manager

How will you benefit?

- Volunteer in an inspiring environment and get closer to nature
- Great way to learn new skills
- Make a real contribution to the conservation work of WWT
- Free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge
- Discount in WWT shops and cafes
- WWT uniform provided
- Induction and training provided
- Become part of a friendly and dedicated team
- Meet like-minded people

General notes:

Getting to the Centre: Road: Slimbridge Wetland Centre is 2 miles off the A38. There is a large car park with ample car parking spaces and there is a bike rack available for staff volunteers. Rail: Cam & Dursley rail station is a 3.5 mile cycle or taxi ride away. Bus: Unfortunately there is no bus service directly to Slimbridge: the nearest services stop is at the A38, 2 miles walk from the Centre. New for 2019: we are trialling a free minibus service for volunteers to/from the nearest train station and bus stops. Please ask your line manager if you would like to access this service.

We regret that we are not in a position to reimburse expenses incurred in travelling to and from the centre, but any pre-agreed expenses incurred in the course of your duties will be reimbursed.

This position is entirely voluntary and is therefore unpaid. Any offer of a volunteer placement is not intended to create a legally binding contract between us and any agreement may be cancelled at any time at the discretion of either party. Neither of us intends any employment relationship to be created either now or at any time in the future.

How to Apply:

Full details of this role and an online application form can be found at <u>www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer</u>. If you have any problems locating the information or filling out the application form please email <u>volunteer.slimbridge@wwt.org.uk</u>

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