

Junior Park Rangers – Getting You Started

Thank you for becoming a JPR Coordinator and helping the nature-loving children of Milton Keynes to have an outlet for their interest and enthusiasm! We have put together this resource to show you the next steps in getting your JPR club up and running.

Step 1 Choosing your JPRs

This is the part where you choose which children can join your group. JPRs must be in Years 4, 5 and 6. There is no limit to how many children you can have - this depends on your capacity, and how many children you are able to supervise at one time.

Some schools make mini application forms, others make an announcement in an assembly and ask children to come forwards if they're interested. There is no right or wrong way - whatever works for you and your school!

Step 2 Visit from The Parks Trust

Florie from the Outdoor Learning team will come and visit you and your JPRs, at a time and date arranged with you. She will bring along the free Parks Trust goodies for the JPRs, and will explain how everything works and answer any questions from the Coordinator and JPRs.

Florie will try to fit in with meetings that are already planned in, preferably early on in the academic year so that she can meet the JPRs before any weekend workshops. This means that JPRs will have a familiar face if they are able to attend a workshop.

Step 3 Getting Up and Running

By now, your email address should have been added to our mailing list, and you should start to receive monthly emails packed with resources, activity ideas and event information.

None of the activities are compulsory, they are simply ideas that can be used as they are or adapted to suit you and your school - or you can come up with your own activities instead! We will send out a minimum of three activities each month that cover a whole range of things including craft activities, habitat-building ideas, quizzes and scavenger hunts etc – all things that you can hopefully do with your JPRs in their meetings.

Step 4 JPR Meetings

You can use the Planning Sheet to help get you started in your first meeting, and to capture the ideas of your JPRs too. We'd love for you to get outside with your JPRs as much as possible so activities that are in local parks/your schoolgrounds get bonus points! We ask that you meet your JPRs a minimum of once per month. Don't forget to take photos of the activities you do so that you can show Florie what you have been up to if you want to enter the Outstanding Rangers Award at the end of the year!

Remember to get in touch if there is anything at all we can do to help!