



Laura

Outdoor Learning Leader

Joined The Parks Trust: 2019

What do you do?

I deliver education sessions to people out and about in the parks. I teach them about the wildlife and the work that The Parks Trust does to look after these spaces.

I work in different parks and with different groups of people every day from families to school groups to Brownies and Scouts.

What did you do when you left school?

I studied Sociology at Loughborough University. I was very interested in understanding different communities and groups within society and why people behave as they do but I didn't really know what I wanted to do as a career.

Describe your career journey so far.

Once I had finished my degree, I did a PGCE (teaching qualification) and became a secondary school teacher. I also completed a Masters Degree in Teaching and Learning alongside working full-time. When I decided I wanted to stop teaching in a school, I looked for a job that meant I could use my teaching skills in a different way. Since getting my current job I have had to do lots of new learning to improve my knowledge about nature and wildlife.

Why did you want to work for The Parks Trust?

I wanted to work outdoors. I am passionate about nature, the environment and local history. Milton Keynes is such a unique place, so being able to teach other people about it really appealed to me.

What skills or qualities do you need to be successful in your role?

Confidence in talking to groups of people and being able to explain things in different ways.

Being organised to make sure you have sorted all of the things that you need ahead of a session and being able to keep to your planned timings during the session.

Good at working in a team with other people, sharing ideas and helping each other out.

My words of wisdom...

Don't be afraid to try something new or different - you might find you love it!

Teaching doesn't have to mean you are stuck inside a classroom all day!

