



Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust

OCCOMBE EDUCATION SESSIONS



Discover more at Occombe Farm



Escape to the countryside at Occombe Farm and immerse yourself in nature. A place where children can roam, explore and make unforgettable memories.

As well as being a popular visitor attraction, we're also a conservation charity and part of Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust. We're passionate about inspiring the next generation to respect and protect our natural world - for people and for wildlife.

What we offer

Our sessions are delivered by a team of enthusiastic professionals and the sessions are put together around the national curriculum whilst supporting cross curriculum delivery.

A typical day runs from 10am to 2pm including 2 sessions that cater for up to 60 students per day (with 30 students per session that run simultaneously then alternate). These are available to be booked from Monday - Friday.

Please find details of all our workshops and our price list enclosed.

Field to Fork Sessions



Farm Visit

Explore our animal collection, and come face to face with some of our most friendly inhabitants. They'll be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and learn all about our animals from our experienced farm team.

Sessions can be tailored to focus on their food supply, habitats and life stages. Of course, if you want to focus just on animal interaction, that can be accommodated too.

There is a variety of activities that children may experience including walking goats, feeding or brushing animals, and learning about animal care in a hands on practical way.



Cookery

Kids will learn about growing food through to cooking it themselves. They'll have the opportunity to pick seasonal produce from our garden kitchen, learn a lot about cooking and certainly have loads of fun along the way. Our cookery sessions usually involve pizzas but if you have any other preferences please speak to us. Here's a typical session;

10am: Arrival and welcome.

10:15am: Briefing followed by a class discussion of where our food comes from and the importance of eating healthily.

10:30am: Everyone will get the opportunity to mix and collect the ingredients, knead the dough, and decorate their own pizza.

11am: We'll visit the garden kitchen and gather produce while the dough is proving - then add to the pizzas.

By 11:45am: the pizzas will be cooked and ready to be taken home. The group then learns the importance of clearing up.



Gardening

Want to ignite a passion for the next generation of green fingered growers? In this session students will have the opportunity to help our team look after our gardens and it also serves as a great complimentary workshop to the Cookery Session.

This session will change with the seasons but generally includes:

Seed planting: students will prepare pots with seeds that they can take home and watch grow.

Weeding / tool use: students will learn how to safely use tools and then put these skills to the test to either weed or prepare a new bed for planting.

Watering: students will learn about the importance of keeping plants healthy and then have the opportunity to water plants.

Discovery Sessions



Mini-beast discovery

Explore life in the undergrowth and the variety of mini-beasts we have in the habitats around our farm.

This is a hands on activity where students will learn how to identify and classify a mini-beast and gain an understanding of what makes their habitats unique. A typical session includes:

Sweep netting: using specialised nets, students will search long grass to see what mini-beasts they can find. They will then study the creatures using magnifying glasses.

Pooter hunt: students will move on to our woodland trail to hunt for animals and clues. They'll also use pooters to catch mini-beasts and identify differences in habitats.



Den building

Want to build a strong dynamic within your class? Den building is a great teambuilding exercise.

The class will use their collective experience to build a shelter big enough for everyone to fit inside. A typical session generally looks like this...

Introduction: learn why we need shelter in a survival situation and how to build them. Students discuss what they'd do in a survival situation and learn how to stay safe and avoid injury.

Gathering materials: before splitting off into groups the class works together to collect resources before they start testing some of their den ideas.

The water test: is the den waterproof? We check how well the shelters hold up against the weather.

Group build: the final stage of the session is working together to build a shelter big enough for the entire class.



Fire lighting

Students will be taught the principles of the fire triangle, how to use this knowledge to put out a fire, and the importance of staying safe around them. A typical session generally looks like this...

Introduction: students discuss their experience with fires, learn about the fire triangle and how to stay safe.

Sparks: students get to grips with using a flint and steel, while trying to get some sparks.

Fire maintenance: students will have the chance to build and maintain a small fire using sticks collected from around the nature trail.

Marshmallow toasting: the session ends with everyone gathering around a large fire to toast marshmallows.

If you have any further requirements, including about accessibility, or if you'd like to discuss possible additions / alternations to these sessions, please contact us.

Contact us

Our address: Ocombe Farm, Preston Down Road, Paignton, TQ3 1RN

For more information or to book:

Call: 01803 696 250

Email: tccteducation@countryside-trust.org.uk

Visit www.countryside-trust.org.uk

Terms & conditions

- By making an enquiry you agree to us contacting you regarding your booking.
- By making your booking, you are accepting that these terms and conditions form the basis of any contract between Ocombe Farm and yourself.
- School staff are responsible for the supervision of all students throughout their visit.
- Due to the nature of our business, things may happen beyond our control and we may need to cancel your visit or change the programme at short notice.
- You may be entitled to a Risk Assessment visit, especially for pupils with special educational needs. This is for use during the same term as your visit is booked, by school teaching staff only, and must be used with school photo ID.
- Instances of disruptive behaviour will be reported immediately and dealt with accordingly. Unfortunately, in extreme cases, this can lead to the whole school group being asked to leave the premises.
- The farm activities are subject to a number of factors, and so we cannot guarantee which activities will be available on the day. However if you have any preferences we will always try to accommodate these where possible.

Pricings

	Price per head (inc VAT)	Price per head (ex VAT)	Minimum Charge
Full day	£12	£10	£168

If you rebook within a month of your visit for the following year you'll get a 5% discount on that visit rate.

National Curriculum links

Farm Visit	<p style="text-align: center;">KS1, KS2 Science</p> <p>Animals, including humans: Animal Offspring, Basic needs of animals, Where food comes from, Habitats</p>
Cooking	<p style="text-align: center;">KS1, KS2 Science</p> <p>Animals, including humans: Where food comes from, Importance of diet, Nutrition</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS2 Geography: Food miles, Vegetable belts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS2 Design and Technology: Cooking and Nutrition</p>
Gardening	<p style="text-align: center;">KS1, KS2 Science</p> <p>Plants: Structure/function of plants, Identification, How seeds/bulbs grow, What plants need to grow, Plant life cycles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS2 Geography: Food miles, Vegetable belts</p>
Discovery	<p style="text-align: center;">KS1, KS2 Science</p> <p>Animals / Plants / living things: Plant structure, Identification, Habitats / microhabitats, Food chains</p>
Flame-craft	<p style="text-align: center;">KS1, KS2</p>
Den building	<p>Physical Education: Dexterity Skills, Team Work, Outdoor challenges</p>