## **Education & Community Wellbeing**



We are passionate about habitats and bio-diversity, but education and community are large aspects of what we do too. Providing the public with safe, accessible access to areas of the nature reserve, creating benches, hides, informative signage with picture guides to species. Then tying that signage into the national curriculum for keys stage 1, 2 & 3. Supplying an education space, with facilities and equipment to facilitate science visits by schools.

"Helping people connect with their local environment and appreciate its wonder and value"



Using ancient techniques such as hedge laying and meadow management, we retain knowledge from older generations. In the past river keepers were employed to manage the river and they built up an intimate knowledge of their local section. Now they have largely been replaced by automatic weirs for their primary function, but they also did other things like looking after the habitat. This is where small local charities can come in to take up that role of traditional land management, but with a particular focus on conservation and retaining local historic expertise of the local environment. Then building on that with higher education institutions to enrich that knowledge with modern scientific survey methods.

## **School trips & public events**

I remember going on a school science trip to a river when I was at junior school, the fact I remember it so well now, demonstrates the effect it had on me at the time. There are many schools in the local area and NEWT want to facilitate school educational visits.

Our team of passionate conservationists and other guest speakers may also do public talks, walks and wildlife spotting nights. An excellent recruitment opportunity for our volunteer days.



## A facility for local groups

NEWT is making a space that will accommodate class sized groups. We would love to share this with other local community groups for their own use, so we can share the positive effect that nature has on peoples physical and mental health and wellbeing.