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| **Volunteer Role Title** | **Role Number** |
| **Events and Engagement Volunteer** |  |
| **Reserve, Project, Team or Area**  |
| Stirley, West Yorkshire Team. |
| **Volunteer Manager/Supervisor**  |
| Stephanie Turner - Inspiring People Officer, Stirley |
| **Why do we need you?**  |
| Nature is amazing and we want to tell everyone! Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is creating a county rich in wildlife and we need passionate, inspiring volunteers to help people to develop a connection with nature. Across our sites the Trust runs regular events from education sessions with local schools to events for our family audiences. We are looking for people who can inspire others and help us to deliver these events throughout the seasons.Since taking on ownership of Stirley Farm in 2011, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust has restored an old barn into an excellent education facility, developed a thriving community vegetable garden, planted an orchard, established & introduced beehives and provided environmental education to young people.Stirley hosts regular school visits throughout the year helping young people discover how plants grow, learning core topics of sustainability, healthy eating and a sense of wonder for nature. To continue and expand our education work at Stirley, we need more volunteers to assist with both the delivery of, and preparation for, these education sessions. In the future we hope to expand our family and adult events so that groups can explore the site during school holidays and at weekends. A strong team of education volunteers will enable small events and activities to be held throughout these busy periods, for example regular seasonal events at Christmas, Halloween, and half term family activities.Could you help us to inspire the next generation of wildlife heroes? (Photo Credit, Patrick Fore) |
| **What will you be doing?**  |
| At Stirley we run a range of events across the year to inspire people about nature. Volunteers assist with the majority of these events from school group visits to bookable events for the public. In this role you will help to deliver these activities, representing Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, and sharing your passion for nature with others providing a high quality visitor experience.Tasks will include:* Assisting the Inspiring People Officer in the smooth running of events and sessions
* Assist in preparing of equipment, resources and materials
* Assist in room set-ups
* Check in people on events attendance lists
* Meet and greet the participants
* Engage with visitors and communicate ‘onward messages’
* Assist in the packing away of materials and equipment correctly
* Feedback event attendance to the Inspiring People Officer
* Run activities such as “dig, cook and eat”, making bird boxes, wreath making, assisting with Nature Tots or helping at bigger events.
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| **Experience, knowledge and skills needed for this role**  |
| Essential:* Reliable and punctual
* Friendly and welcoming
* Capable of working well in a team and on own initiative
* Ability to follow instructions and on occasions work with minimum supervision
* Good communication skills
* Reasonably fit (this role will involve being on your feet all day with minimal breaks due to the nature of school visits)
* A passion for nature and a positive enthusiasm that rubs off on others

Desirable or willing to learn – training can be provided:* Experience of working with children
* Knowledge of healthy eating and the benefits of local, seasonal produce
* Knowledge of nature and British wildlife
* Creative (activities can include modelling, sewing, drawing, painting)
* Food Hygiene Training

**Does the volunteer need a driver’s license?** Stirley can be accessed by public transport, but a driving licence could be helpful in case of events taking place at other locations around the West Yorkshire region.  |
| **What’s in it for you?**  |
| * The chance to connect communities and children with their local nature, creating a lifelong passion
* Experience of creating and planning education sessions
* Experience of delivering education events to school groups
* Be a valued member of a friendly, professional team of staff and volunteers
* Knowledge that the work you will do will benefit a flagship site and the work of YWT
* Develop a range of skills including people engagement and communication
* Access to a wide range of internal training offered by YWT including the one day Event Day Leader and Task Day Leader courses
* Making new friends and meeting likeminded people
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| **Where is the role based?**  |
| Stirley– Huddersfield, West Yorkshire (may be other opportunities to assist at other west and north Yorkshire sites. |
| **Commitment**  |
| Once a fortnight – once a monthVolunteers will be emailed a diary with future event dates each month and then they can choose which dates to volunteer. |
| **Duration**  |
| Ongoing – Most if our events happen between April and December. This is when you will be busiest.  |
| **Does this role involve working with children or vulnerable adults?** Yes |
| Volunteers will be supervised at all times whilst with children. An enhanced disclosure is not needed for this volunteer role but applicants will be subject to reference checks as it involves volunteering with families and school groups.  |
| **Will the role involve any other sensitive tasks for which we may wish to check suitability via references or a criminal records check?** |
| Yes- as this role involves volunteering with children, two references are required |
| If you are interested in this role and would like to apply, please download a volunteer application form and email it to: volunteering@ywt.org.uk |