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**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:****Volunteer Education Assistant**

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We're WWT, the charity for wetlands and wildlife. We're on a mission to restore wetlands, because they are a wondrous solution to our world's problems. Together we will unlock their power, and help nature burst back to life. Because when wetlands flourish, all life will flourish.

At WWT, we believe that the best way for people to understand and 'connect' with wetlands is to experience them, so we bring awe-inspiring nature up close. You will be directly involved in shaping children's unforgettable experiences through the warm welcome you give them, your interactions with them and the information that you provide. We need enthusiastic people to help deliver our education programmes to school groups and in doing so ensure that they feel part of something amazing.

Volunteers play a crucial role in saving wetlands for wildlife and people.

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**This role involves:**

- Helping out with school groups as appropriate.
- Leading selected guided learning sessions (session plans will be provided) and supporting the education lead.
- Helping with our funded Generation Wild programme, in which school groups meet "Ava" (the half girl/half osprey puppet!) and complete pre-planned nature activities.
- Helping to deliver seasonal events to the general public, such as half-term craft sessions.
- Attending training sessions and meetings when required.
- Being friendly and approachable to visitors, especially children.
- Interacting with children in a sensitive and responsive manner.
- Being aware of procedures regarding child protection.

**This role will suit you if:**

- You have experience in an educational setting.
- You are confident or experienced in working with children and wish to engage and inspire.
- You are able to work in a team of staff and volunteers.
- You are able to communicate well to a diverse range of audiences.
- You are familiar with the Washington centre – this would be beneficial during the initial stages.

## How will you benefit?

- This is an excellent opportunity to work within an internationally important wetland site.
  - Suitable uniform is provided to all regular volunteers.
  - Discount is available in the cafe and shop on the days of volunteering.
  - Free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge.
  - Training opportunities will be provided.
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## Practicalities:

<b>Where will you be based?</b>	WWT Washington Wetlands Centre
<b>Who will you volunteer with?</b>	The Learning Manager and team
<b>Time commitment?</b>	One or two days each week, 9.30am – 2.30pm Monday – Friday during term time (with half-term opportunities also available)

We will mutually agree the hours that you can contribute and it would be helpful if you could try to give us as much notice as possible on the occasions when you are not able to contribute those hours. However these may vary from week to week depending on school visits.

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We want your volunteering to be a positive and fun experience. You'll get a warm welcome, including information on training, equipment and other information you need. This will include risk assessments based on your role and any particular support you need.

Volunteers receive access to our sites, and discounts in our shops and cafes. Some roles include a uniform or require the use of equipment or protective clothing.

If you are based at a particular site or office location, you'll need to be able to get yourself there and back. Information on locations can be found on our [website](#).

If you are interested in volunteering for WWT but don't wish to apply online, please email [volunteering@wwt.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@wwt.org.uk) or leave a message at 0191 419 5933 with your name and number. We will keep you up to date with what's happening across WWT and the difference you will be helping to make happen.

## Interested?

If you are interested in this role, please complete an application form so that we can talk it through further with you.