



# The **JOHN MUIR** Award

ABERNETHY

The John Muir Award is a national environmental Award scheme focused on wild places. It encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration. It is non-competitive and open to all.

JOHN  
MUIR  
AWARD

*wild places:*  
DISCOVER  
EXPLORE  
CONSERVE  
SHARE

## What is the John Muir Award all about?

The John Muir Award aims to encourage people to experience and enjoy wild places, and to take some responsibility for their own environment. It is a flexible scheme, which offers a focus for a wide range of outdoor, environmental, and personal development activities.

## John Muir Award Criteria

Four Challenges are at the heart of each John Muir Award, to achieve an Award each participant must:

- **Discover** a wild place
- **Explore** its wildness
- **Conserve** take personal responsibility
- **Share** experiences

Participants should show enthusiasm and commitment, and have awareness about John Muir.

## 3 Levels

There are 3 levels of the Award, encouraging a progressive involvement. The same 4 challenges above are repeated for each level, with increased involvement in time, activity and ownership.

**Discovery Award** (introductory level) minimum 4 days (or equivalent)

**Explorer Award** (intermediate level) minimum 8 days (or equivalent)

**Conserver Award** (advanced level) minimum 20 days (or equivalent) over 6 months



[www.abernethy.org.uk](http://www.abernethy.org.uk)

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## **The John Muir Award at Abernethy**

If your group is coming to Abernethy for four days or more, you can complete the John Muir Award Discovery level. On the first evening that you visit, you will be shown a John Muir Award DVD and the award will be explained.



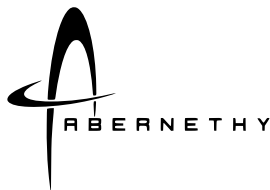
Throughout the week you will be encouraged to discover and explore the wild environment that you are in by means of games, activities and discussions integrated into your activity programme. You may, for example, play an environmentally themed game, build shelters and learn about wild food whilst on an Adventure Day; make some nature art before a High Ropes or Zip wire session or look for signs of wild animals whilst completing an orienteering course.

As part of your Conserve challenge you will learn about the Scottish Outdoor Access Code

and how to take responsibility for your impact on the local and wider environment. You can share your thoughts and experiences both during your activities and in the evening whilst filling out your free John Muir diaries. If you feel that your group has enthusiastically participated in the award, you will be helped to fill in a certificate request form, which Abernethy will submit to the John Muir Trust, who will deliver certificates for each participant directly to you.

## **The John Muir Award and the Curriculum for Excellence**

The John Muir Award integrates extremely well with the aims and outcomes of the Curriculum for Excellence. Much added value can be given to your John Muir Award by preparatory and follow-up activities. Ideas can be found on the John Muir Award website [www.johnmuiraward.org](http://www.johnmuiraward.org) within the case studies section. Of particular interest to schools are the links highlighted with the Curriculum for Excellence within the Beeslack Community High School case study.



For more information visit the John Muir page on our Website:  
<http://www.abernethy.org.uk/about-us/schools/john-muir-award>  
Or contact our Schools Manager Lesley:  
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