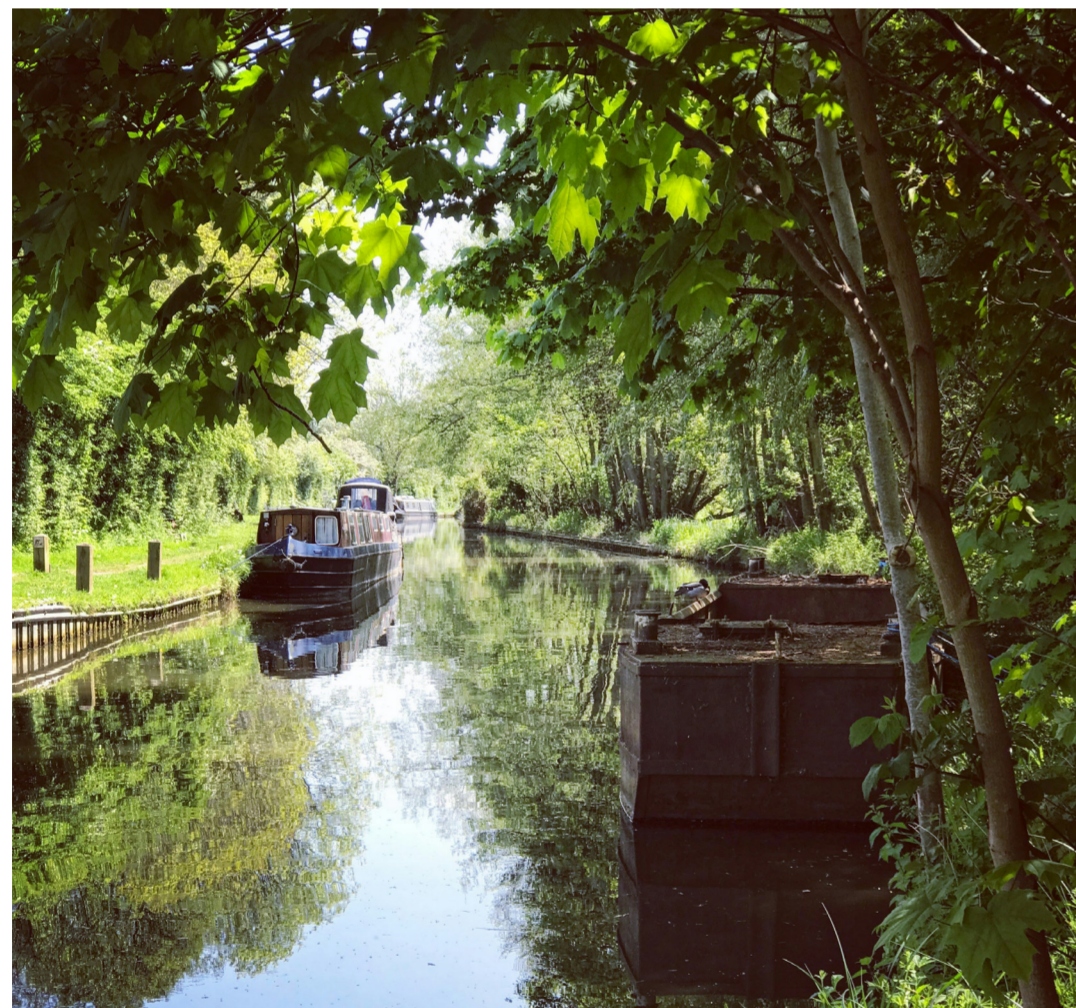


Where can your Nature Park skills and experiences take you?

2

Green skills, apprenticeships and levels

Did you know that your Nature Park activities and experiences can lead to an exciting career? There are many jobs that use these skills and a lot of ways to get into a 'green career'.



Levels and what they are equivalent to:

You can take apprenticeships at multiple levels and can also do a degree apprenticeship.

Intermediate (Level 2): Equivalent to GCSEs. Examples include: gardener, countryside ranger and bike mechanic.

Advanced (Level 3): Equivalent to A Levels. Examples include: battery manufacturing technician, heat pump installer, forest worker and recreation ranger. These allow you to also apply for a degree.

Higher (Level 4): Equivalent to a foundation degree or HND. Examples include: community energy adviser, ecologist, nature reserve worker, environmental social governance (ESG) administrator, responsible business sustainability coordinator and assistant farm manager.

Degree (Levels 5-7): Earn a full undergraduate degree or postgraduate Masters degree (Level 7) while working. Examples include: sustainability manager, sustainability specialist, soil scientist, soil carbon modeller, contaminated land specialist, arboriculturist, tree manager and arboretum curator.

Green skills:

Apprenticeships provide opportunities to develop skills which allow people to follow green careers; here are some examples.

📍 Identification and ecology:

Countryside worker level (Level 2): Improving habitats and woodland so native flora and fauna (plants and animals) can thrive. Employers include national parks, local authorities and charities.

Ecologist apprenticeship (Level 7): Understanding the relationship between living things and their environment helping humans minimise their impact. Employers include government agencies (Natural England, Environment Agency), councils and consultancies.

📊 Recording data:

Countryside worker (Level 2): Carrying out surveys of habitats, animals and plants and use this to help manage sites like country parks, woodlands or national parks. Employers include national parks, local authorities and charities.

Surveying technicians (Level 3): Collecting data and information from places to help make decisions on planning and development. Employers include surveyors and developers.

🗺️ Interpreting data:

Forestry works manager (Level 4): Using data to make decisions on how woodland and forests are managed. This data may be mapped data or spreadsheets. Employers include The Forestry Commission, Forest England, forestry companies and NGOs like The Woodland Trust.

Data analysts (Level 4): Sourcing, formatting, analysing and presenting data to help make decisions. They might work with data about the environment and about communities. Employers include government departments, consultancies and banks.

💡 Creative thinking and decision making:

Energy managers (Level 3): Helping their company or organisation reduce the amount of energy they use and reduce carbon footprint. Employers include hospitality, manufacturing companies and housing trusts.

Corporate responsibility and sustainability practitioners (Level 4): Helping organisations understand how they impact the environment and society. They need to think about problems creatively and suggest ideas. Employers include banks, supermarkets, hospitality companies, pharmaceutical companies and transport-related organisations.

🌿 Environmental Stewardship and Horticulture:

Horticulture manager (Level 5): Managing a site like a community garden, park, or a stately home. They will use information like the history, soils, habitats, usage, design or manage the site for now and in the future. Employers include charities like the RHS, local government and councils, The National Trust and landowners.

Environmental practitioners (Level 6): Working in many types of organisation that need to understand the condition of the environment or how it is changing. They may specialise in air pollution, water quality or the impact of climate change. Employers include government agencies (e.g. The Environment Agency), landowners, developers and environmental consultants.

💬 Communication:

Heat pump installers (Level 3): Communicating with customers and explaining how the new heat pump is installed and works. Employers include plumbers, housing trusts and energy companies.

Sustainability practitioners (Level 4): Being able to explain their work and how it will benefit the company. They may also work with communities, charities and government. Employers include banks, supermarkets, hospitality companies, pharmaceutical companies and transport-related organisations.



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Partners



Made in collaboration with the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) as a part of their choose geography campaign. Not a Geography teacher? The Nature Park programme also explores the role of other subjects in green careers and skills development. Find out more: <https://www.educationnaturepark.org.uk/green-skills>

A green career can be any job, role or occupation that contributes to preserving or restoring the environment and our planet. It can be any industry, not just those seen as 'green.' Green skills are abilities, attributes, values, attitudes, knowledge, and technical skills needed to adapt services, processes and procedures to support climate change.

There is a separate poster in the series if you are thinking about taking A Level geography.