

The 10th Annual Bealtaine Festival of Outdoor Science

18th-25th May 2014

Celebrate Our Living Earth

www.livingearth.ie

Incorporating International Day for
Biological Diversity on May 22nd



Co-ordinated by With Partner Centres



Udarais Aitiúla Chontae Phort Láirge



museum
National Museum of Ireland
Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann



Ireland's EU Structural Funds
Programmes 2007 - 2013
Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



Comhshaoil, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Schedule of Events for Bealtaine Festival of Outdoor Science 2014

Sunday 18th

The Bilberry Goat
12:00-13:00 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Prospect Lodge, Bilberry Rock, Waterford

An on-site talk discussing the preservation, history and conservation of the unique Bilberry Goat Herd.

Presenter: Martin Doyle, Bilberry Goat Heritage Trust

www.bilberrygoatheritagetrust.ie

Seaweed Gardening
14:00-15:30 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Kilfarrasy Strand, Co Waterford

A guided beach walk, exploring edible sea-weeds and Irish wildlife with Irish Wildlife Trust member Marie Power, author of "The Sea Garden: A Guide to seaweed cookery and foraging."

Presenter: Marie Power, Irish Wildlife Trust

www.theseagarden.ie

Red Trail Guided Walk of JFK Arboretum
15:00-16:00 (Families/General Public)
Venue: JFK Arboretum, New Ross

A guided walk through the Red Trail of JFK Arboretum introducing participants to the trees and wildlife found here.

Presenter: JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

www.heritageireland.ie

Dusk Walk
20:00-21:30 (Families/General Public)
Venue: People's Park Waterford (Meet at bandstand)

A dusk walk with author and broadcaster Eric Dempsey. Eric is well known from the Mooney Show and for his books about the birds of Ireland. He will introduce participants to some of the common birds in the People's park and help participants to learn to identify them through their calls.

Presenter: Eric Dempsey

www.birdsireland.com

Monday 19th

Wonderful World of Feathers
10:00-11:00 (Primary 2nd-4th class)
12:00-13:00 (Primary 5th-6th class)
Venue: Waterford Institute of Technology

Eric Dempsey, well known broadcaster and author will introduce the birds of Ireland to primary school children. This illustrated presentation will show how wonderfully adapted birds are for their environment.

Presenter: Eric Dempsey

www.birdsireland.com

Nature Trail of JFK Arboretum
10:30-11:30 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: JFK Arboretum, New Ross

An informative nature trail taking in the beauty of JFK arboretum.

Presenter: JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

www.heritageireland.ie

Seaweed Safari
11:30-13:00 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: Kilfarrasy Strand, Co Waterford

Introducing the art of foraging and wildlife exploration at the seashore with Bruce MacDonald.

Presenter: Bruce MacDonald, Copper Coast Geopark

www.coppercoastgeopark.com

Ireland's Native Reptiles and Amphibians
19:00-20:00 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Waterford Institute of Technology, Auditorium

A talk detailing Ireland's native reptiles, frogs and newts. This talk will introduce "citizen science" and show how the general public can get involved in exciting science projects.

Presenter: Robert O Sullivan, The Herpetological Society of Ireland

www.thehsi.org

Tuesday 20th

Dave's Jungle
09:30-10:30, 11:00-12:00, 12:30-13:30, 13:45-14:45 (Primary All Ages)

Venue: Waterford Institute of Technology

Get the chance to meet Dave's snakes, spiders, scorpions and lizards up close and personal!

Presenter: Dave's Jungle

www.davesjungle.com

Biodiversity Workshop
10:00-11:30 (Primary 3rd & 4th class)
Venue: Kilbarry Nature Park, Waterford

The nature park plays host to an interactive walk exploring nature and biodiversity within Waterford City. It encompasses an integrated wetland, bog and meadows. Pupils will participate in identification tasks as well as a fun nature hunt.

Presenter: Ella Ryan, Waterford City Council

www.waterfordcity.ie

Grow It Yourself (Families/General Public)
18:30-19:30
Venue: Ardkreen Library, Waterford

An introductory talk showcasing the blossoming GIY International organisation which traces its roots to Waterford Libraries. Learn about sustainable horticulture.

Presenter: GIY International

www.giyinternational.org

Wednesday 21st

Fenor Bog Nature Trail
10:00-11:30 (Primary 5th & 6th class)
Venue: Fenor Bog

An interactive walk covering the formation of the bog, looking at the plants and animals that live there.

Presenter: Alan Walshe, Copper Coast Geopark

www.coppercoastgeopark.com

River Ecology Workshop
10:30-12:00 & 12:30-14:00 (Secondary Schools)
Venue: River Mahon, Kill, Co Waterford

An investigation into river ecology with WIT Lecturer Dr Michael Breen.

Presenter: Dr Michael Breen

Nature Trail of JFK Arboretum
10:30-11:30 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: JFK Arboretum, New Ross

An informative nature trail taking in the beauty of JFK arboretum.

Presenter: JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

www.heritageireland.ie

Guided Walk of JFK Arboretum
15:00-16:00 (General Public/Secondary Schools)
Venue: JFK Arboretum, New Ross

Explore the surroundings of the JFK Arboretum with an experienced guide and learn about this important park.

Presenter: JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

www.heritageireland.ie

Fenor Bog Evening Walk
19:00-20:30 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Fenor Bog

An interactive walk for the general public and families exploring the history and diverse wildlife of the bog.

Presenter: Alan Walshe, Copper Coast Geopark

www.coppercoastgeopark.com

Guided Tour of Tourin House & Walled Gardens
19:00-20:00 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Tourin House, Cappoquin

This beautiful house and walled garden built in 1840 will be open to the public for an evening tour of the beautiful interior and diverse gardens. Please book in advance. Places are limited.

Presenter: Kristin Jameson

www.tourin-house.ie

Tales of Giants from Shandon Cave
19:30-20:30 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Dungarvan Town Hall Theatre

Illustrated talk on the discovery of prehistoric animal bones at Shandon Cave, Dungarvan by Dr Matthew Parkes, Natural History Museum and author of "Corrie, Caves and Coast: The Geological Heritage of Ireland"

Presenter: Dr Matthew Parks, National Museum of Ireland

Bernadette Guest, Waterford County Council

www.museum.ie
www.waterfordcoco.ie

Thursday 22nd

Outdoor Maths Activity
10:00-11:00 (Primary All Ages)
Venue: Lismore Millennium Park

Students turns themselves upside down to measure, estimate and count their way around Lismore Millennium Park.

Presenter: Aoife McCabe, Lismore Heritage Centre

www.lismoreheritage.ie

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Presenter: JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

www.heritageireland.ie

Guided tour of Dunhill Wetland
11:30-12:30 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: Dunhill ICW

This wetland provides wonderful habitats, while cleaning up waste water using natural processes. Students will see biodiversity in action.

Presenter: Paul Carroll, Waterford County Council

www.waterfordcoco.ie

Safe Water at the Treatment Plant
14:30-15:30 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: Kilmeadan Water Treatment Plant

We all need safe water to live. This guided tour of the drinking water treatment plant will show students the methods behind providing clean and safe drinking water.

Presenter: Paul Carroll, Waterford County Council

www.waterfordcoco.ie

Booking: Eleanor Reade /051 302037/ ereade@wit.ie

From a Rock to a Diamond
19:30-21:30 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Copper Coast Geopark Centre, Bonmahon, Co Waterford



An introduction to geology and minerals covering rock formation, economic use of minerals and gem quality. What makes some minerals so precious and how can we distinguish them from fakes? Various mineral and gem samples will be on display.

Presenter: Tina Keating, Copper Coast Geopark

www.coppercoastgeopark.com

Woodland Mammal Walk (Families/General Public)
20:00-22:00
Venue: Colligan Woods, Dungarvan



A walk in Colligan Woods, hosted by the Mammals in a Sustainable Environment Project (MISE). Join experienced mammal experts exploring for signs of red squirrels, pine martens, otters, stoats and bats.

Presenter: Andrew Harrington, Waterford County Council

Denise O Meara, MISE, WIT

www.waterfordcoco.ie
www.miseproject.ie

Friday 23rd

Our Dynamic Earth (Primary 3rd-5th class)
10:00-11:30
Venue: Copper Coast Geopark Centre, Bonmahon, Co Waterford

Earthquakes! Discover where and why earthquakes happen. Get the chance to see and use a working seismometer.

Presenter: Tina Keating, Copper Coast Geopark

www.coppercoastgeopark.com

ECO-UNESCO Biodiversity Workshop
10:00-11:30 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: Waterford Institute of Technology

Discover the natural world around us, how it works and the value of a healthy biodiversity to the world. This workshop

contributes towards a school's Green Flag Award of Excellence. Presenter: Catherine McGuinness, ECO-UNESCO

www.ecounesco.ie

ECO-UNESCO Climate Change Workshop
12:00-13:30 (Primary 4th-6th class)
Venue: Waterford Institute of Technology

This hands-on workshop will explore the contributions of natural and man-made effects to climate change. This workshop contributes towards a school's Green Flag Award of Excellence.

Presenter: Catherine McGuinness, ECO-UNESCO

www.ecounesco.ie

Saturday 24th

Botanical Drawing Workshop
13:00-15:00 (Families/General Public)
Venue: Waterford Institute of Technology

Learn the basics of botanical drawing of flowers and plants with experienced and noted botanical artist Lynn Stringer.

Presenter: Lynn Stringer

www.lynnstringer.net

Sunday 25th

Giant Mosaic (Families/General Public)
10:00-14:00
Venue: Anestown Shore

Help construct a giant mosaic on Anestown Shore using natural materials found on the beach with artist Sinéad Driver and geologist Tina Keating

Presenter: Sinead Driver & Tina Keating, Copper Coast Geopark

www.coppercoastgeopark.com

Guided Walk of JFK Arboretum
15:00-16:00 (Families/General Public)
Venue: JFK Arboretum, New Ross

Explore the surroundings of the JFK Arboretum with an experienced guide and learn about this important park.

Presenter: JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

www.heritageireland.ie

BOOKING INFORMATION:

All events are free but advance booking for school events is essential. Book through Eleanor Reade, School of Science, Waterford Institute of Technology. Call: **051 302037** Email: **ereade@wit.ie** **More info including directions to all events:**

www.livingearth.ie

About the Organisers

Waterford Institute of Technology through CALMAST offers a wide range of science, technology, engineering and maths programmes for schools and the general public, attracting over 12,000 visitors to five annual festivals: *Maths Week Ireland, The Robert Boyle Summer School, Robert Boyle Science Week, Waterford Engineering Week* and *Bealtaine Festival of Outdoor Science*. www.calmast.ie

PHOTO CREDIT: Richard Creagh
www.richardcreagh.com

Events at a glance

Families/General Public

Schools