



PROJECT CASE STUDY : ENVIRONMENT

Projects that will help look after our environment and water

Grow Cook Learn – Squelch – a project to create a new wetlands nature reserve

Awarded **£24,251**

Community education charity Grow Cook Learn connects local people to the rich outdoor world around them. Situated in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, they run courses, events and educational visits from their 12 hectare site.

With riverside meadows, children’s play areas, a heritage orchard and coppice woodland, there’s something for every taste. And with more than 100,000 visitors every year, they’re clearly popular.

Our grant will help the charity in creating a wetland reserve in one of their meadows. Helping visitors experience these vital natural habitats, the reserve will give plenty of opportunities for formal and informal learning. Accessibility will be an important part of this new development, with new paths making the site available to wheelchair or mobility scooter users and buggies.

Recent research by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust has shown the positive benefit to mental wellbeing that just being close to water can provide. Grow Cook Learn already offers services to people with neurological conditions, and adding green social prescribing to the mix helps them to improve local wellbeing.



A key part of our mission as a charity is to connect people to the landscape of this beautiful area and I believe Squelch will play a key role in achieving this aim. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Severn Trent for funding Squelch and look forward to working with them to bring the project to completion.

Grant Wilson,
Centre Manager

