

EMILY HOLT, Education and Engagement Officer (Recycle for Your Community), Keep Britain Tidy



How did you get where you are today?

I do not have the typical background for environmental education – my degree was in Business Management. I have always had an interest in the environment and really enjoyed working with children – I volunteer with girlguiding and have done since I had to leave Brownies at 10! Once I found out it was possible to combine my passion for the environment and my enjoyment of working with children, I started volunteering for Essex Wildlife Trust. This valuable experience helped me gain a part time role with them, which soon turned into a full time role and a few years later I moved to Keep Britain Tidy to be their Education Officer in East London.

What tips would you give someone starting out in your field?

The environmental education sector is highly competitive so I would recommend gaining as much practical experience as possible.

What inspires you? Or who?

I am extremely inspired by nature and wildlife and it is this that makes me want to inspire and educate the next generation.

What is a significant memory of being in nature as a child?

I remember going for lots of walks in the woods and climbing every possible tree!

What project are you most proud of?

(Re)Love Our Stuff – This is a project I ran when I started with Keep Britain Tidy. I designed the content of the project, recruited schools and had three East London Schools set up their own second-hand clothes shop in school.

What's your favourite game or activity?

I love kayaking and have started attempting to go down white water rivers which is terrifying and really exciting at the same time!

What's your favourite eco-place in London, and why?

Bedfords Park in Havering. It is a fantastic place to be, full of wildlife and I have many great memories of running environmental activities there.

Do you have a recommendation to LEEF members?

I would recommend that LEEF members challenge themselves to try something new as much as possible!

What are you working on at the moment?

I am currently working on encouraging East London Schools to engage with and participate in the Eco-Schools programme.

How would you like to see Environmental or Sustainability Education develop in the next 10 years?

I would love it if all schools have some form of environmental education and for pupils to spend a significantly higher amount of school time outdoors.



Profile of a LEEF Fellow

This fellowship was awarded on:

Tuesday 12 July 2016

At the Royal Parks Foundation Education Centre, Hyde Park

LEEF fellowships are awarded to recognise excellence in Environmental and Sustainability Education

To find out more about LEEF;

www.leef.org.uk



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