# Maïa Sparrow, Education Officer, Brockwell Park Community Greenhouses and Forest School Leader at Oasis Nature Garden



#### How did you get where you are today?

By accident! Well, at least I didn't specifically plan to go into environmental education anyway. One interesting job opportunity led to another and here I am!

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

Take all the training opportunities you can get, try things out and ask lots of questions. You don't need to know lots to teach.

## What inspires you? Or who?

Nature! All the time. I just have to remember to make time for it.

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

Wonderful summers spent on Forest School Camps as a child - lighting fires and singing round them, swimming in rivers, sleeping under shooting stars.

#### What project are you most proud of?

These are tough questions! I ran a series of gardening sessions for unaccompanied child refugees last year – that was great.

#### What's your favourite game or activity?

Hapa zome - plant printing with mallets. Hours of fun and you can use the prints to make flags, cover notebooks, make bunting, as fairy tablecloths...

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

Hampstead Heath, my back garden as a kid. Particularly swimming in the women's pond.

#### Do you have a recommendation to LEEF members?

Help each other out! I couldn't do my job half as well without the support of my peers.

### What are you working on at the moment?

Planning a fun-filled schedule of summer holiday family workshops at Brockwell Park Community Greenhouses



#### Profile of a LEEF Fellow

This fellowship was awarded on:

Tuesday 12 July 2016

At the Royal Parks Foundation Education Centre, Hyde Park

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

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