

Discovering Sustainability In Clyne Gardens

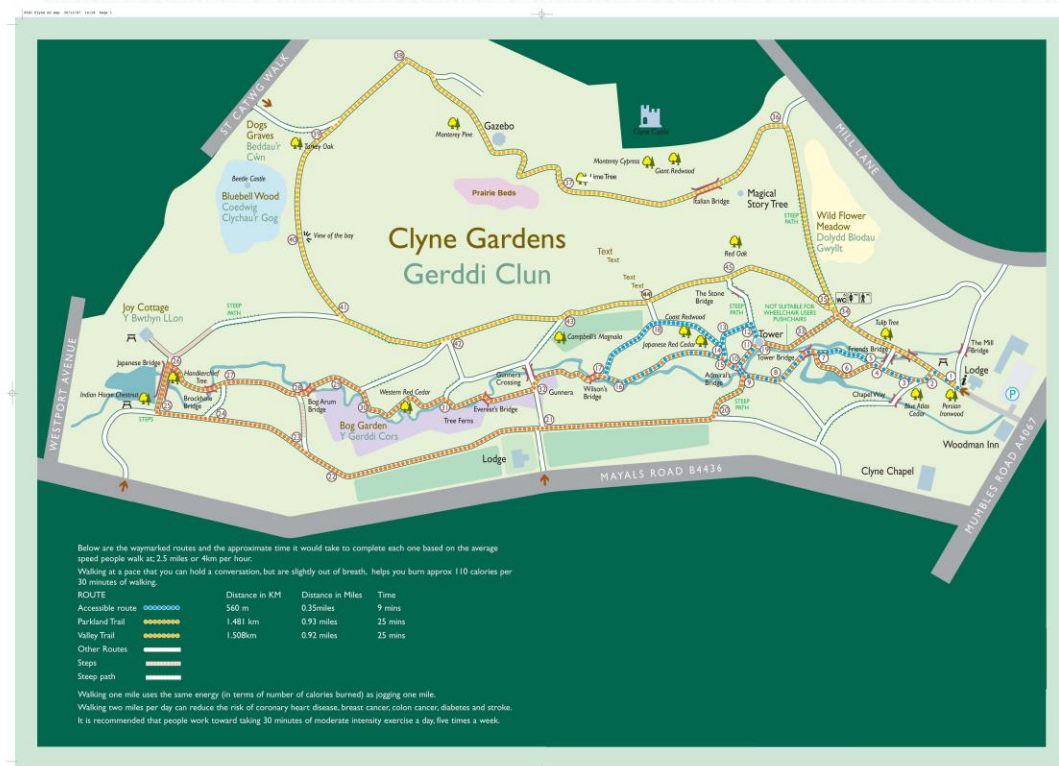


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Award Evidence
Portfolio*



Introduction



For my John Muir Award experience, I chose to explore Clyne Gardens in Swansea, a garden and Woodland in Swansea which is full of various kinds of plants. I decided to select this place because of the variety of the plant species, the natural landscapes, the beautiful scenery which is a peaceful environment which helps contribute to the sustainability and protecting the environment.



Throughout my visit, I explored the different habitats including woodland trails, streams, botanical gardens, and paths. I saw how green spaces help biodiversity, wildlife, and people's health. This experience helped me better understand sustainability by getting to interact with nature, and it made me think about how important it is to protect natural environments for the future.

Discover

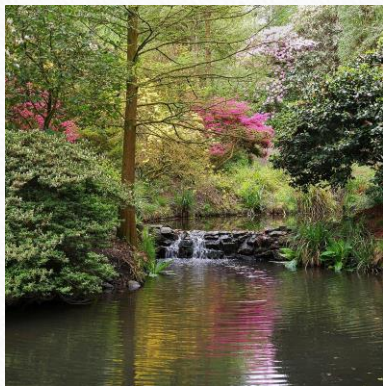
Exploring Nature

During my visit to Clyne Gardens, I discovered a variety of different nature landscapes including woodland pathways, streams, and trees. Getting to experience being in these environment encouraged me to reflect on the importance of protecting green spaces within the areas and their role in supporting biodiversity and public wellbeing

The peaceful atmosphere of the garden highlighted how nature can positively influence emotional wellbeing while also providing habitats for wildlife and plant species.



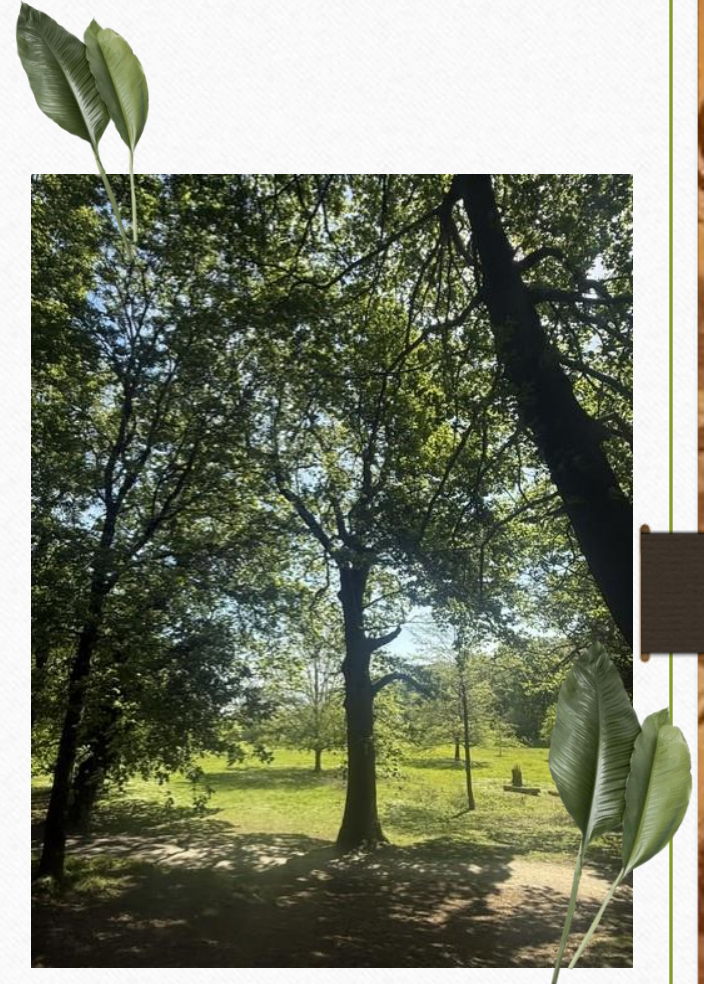
Historic



Natural landscape



Woodland Environment



Explore

While exploring Clyne Gardens, I saw a wide variety of plant species, wildlife, and natural habitats. The diversity of native and non-native plants proved more of the importance of biodiversity and conservation with a suitable ecosystem as Clyne was spotless.



Daisies



Japanese
cherry



European
Robin

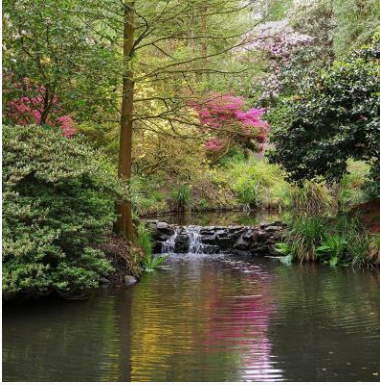


Acorn

Observing wildlife such as the European Robin, and the more natural features including acorns and trees which helped me to understand how interconnected ecosystems support environmental balance. From experience it has strengthened my knowledge of understanding sustainability by showing the importance of protecting habitats and encouraging biodiversity within public green spaces.

Conserve

Looking after our environment



Respecting
habitats

When visiting Clyne Gardens, it encouraged me to consider the importance of environmental responsibility. Throughout my experience, I remained aware of protecting the natural environment by respecting pathways, avoiding disruption to wildlife and appreciating the importance of maintaining sustainable public spaces.

Observing natural functions such as a decaying tree stump may highlight how the ecosystem continues to function through natural life cycles, supporting insects, fungi and biodiversity. This will help reinforce the idea that conservation involves protecting the ecosystem too



Natural life cycle

Respecting
pathways

Sustainability Connections

Biodiversity

With the variety of wildlife and plant species within Clyne Gardens it shows the importance of biodiversity in keeping a healthy ecosystem.





Wellbeing

- Having access to green space can positively support emotional wellbeing , relaxation and connection with nature

Climate & Ecosystem

- Trees and woodland environments contribute towards sustainability by supporting the eco systems improving air quality and protecting habitats



What I learned



- This experience has helped me develop a deeper understanding of sustainability through direct engagement with nature. Before visiting Clyne Gardens, I mainly associated sustainability with larger scale environmental issues such as climate change. However, the visit did help me to realise that sustainability also exists in everyday places and in the small interactions we have with nature.
- I learnt how important it is to protect biodiversity, respect habitats and appreciate the natural world more. I also reflected on how nature can support our mental wellbeing. This experience has strengthened my commitment to sustainability and will influence how I support children to explore, respect and care for our environment in early years settings.