

A circular wreath of various botanical illustrations surrounds a central white circle. The plants include ferns, yellow flowers, red leaves, purple flowers, and green leaves.

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John Muir award

Discover

Llyn Lech Owain is special to me because it was the first walk me and my partner took our puppy on once he was fully vaccinated, he is 2 now and we go every month as our special place to visit.





Llyn Lech Owain

Llyn Lech Owain translates to the lake of Owain's slab, folklore suggests that this lake was created when a well overflowed on Mynydd Mawr. Owain was the well keeper. One day after letting his horse drink from the cool waters, he forgot to replace the stone slab that capped the well. The water flooded out and was on the verge of submerging the whole area when Owain looked back and noticed what was happening. He quickly galloped back with his horse and rode in a circle around the well until the tracks left by his horse's hooves stopped the water flowing.



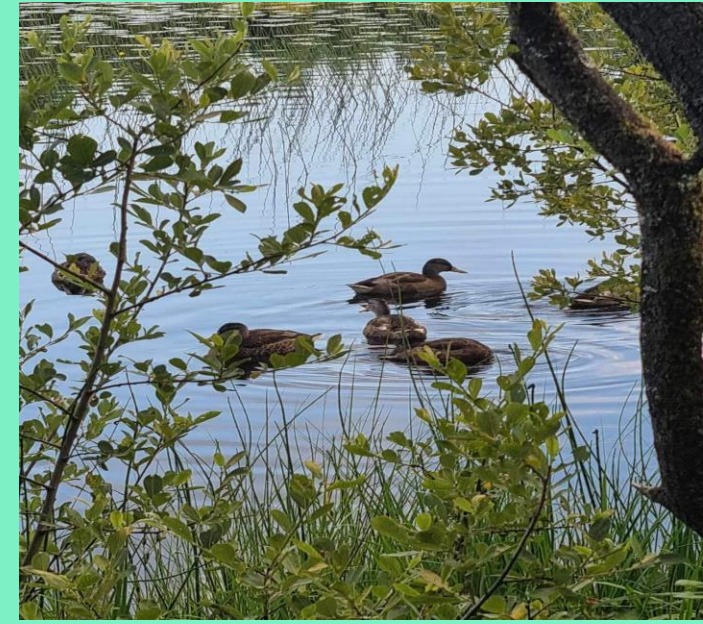


Explore

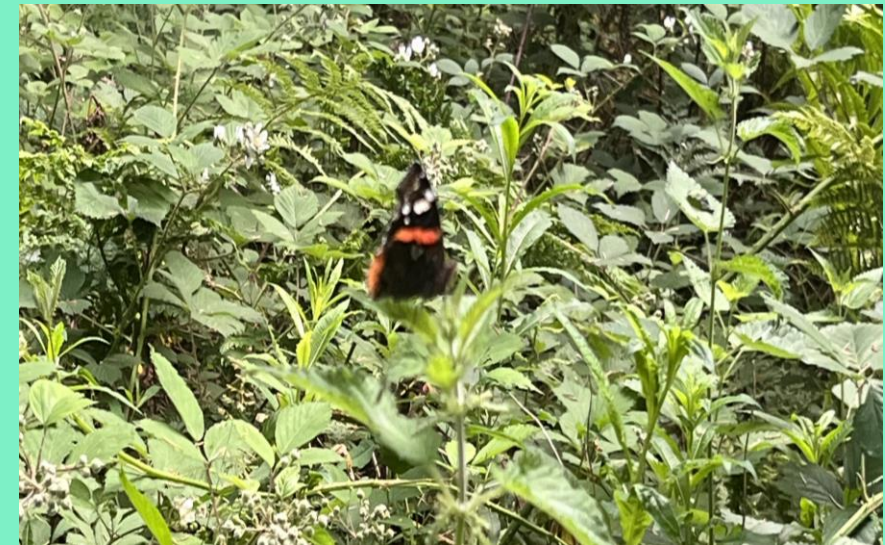
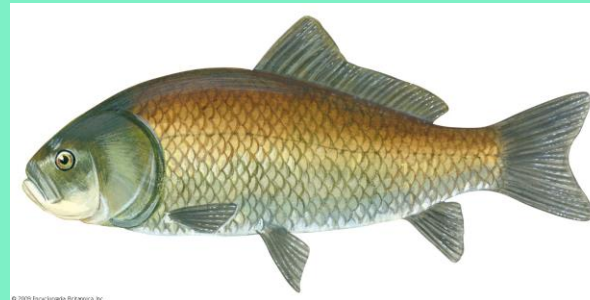
Throughout the park, there were many easy to understand signs showing images to encourage curiosity of what to expect throughout the trail. When I have previously come to this park before doing the John Muir award, my younger cousin loved to look for them to see what to expect next. He enjoyed trying to read the words above the images. However, because of the short time frame of this module and the amount that needed to be completed, I chose to come with my friends.



Whilst exploring, I looked at the water, the land and the sky.
By focussing on these main points, it allowed me to gain a holistic picture of my surroundings.



Whilst exploring, I was surprised at how difficult it was to take pictures of these animals as they were fast moving and often resulted in blurry pictures. To overcome this, I decided to use some images online to show what I had found.





I found beautiful flowers and plants which filled the park with colour and brightness, however, at first I did not know the names of them due to normally only appreciating the plants around me but not being curious enough to find out the exact names of the less commonly seen plants.



Whilst doing the John Muir award, I have noticed lots of areas that I had never noticed or appreciated before. I noticed a den in the woodland area and lily pads in the lake with little yellow flowers growing from them.

The problem

I noticed an issue when exploring the surroundings of the county park.

There was multiple cut down trees all around the woodland area. I saw multiple bird watcher huts.

However, when I looked out of them, I noticed a significant amount of trees surrounding them were cut down.



Conserve

To try and help with the issue of the significant amount of cut down trees, I found an area to plant 6 new oak tree seeds. Firstly, I found a stick, I then dug 6 big holes to plant them. Finally, I covered the area back up with the soil.





As another way to conserve the area, I noticed there was wasn't a place to purchase seeds to feed the birds that still had trees to make nests and live in. I chose to make bird feeders with my little cousin, we went to the shop to purchase the items to make our natural bird feeders. I explained to him the importance of why we were making them. The next day I went to put the bird feeders on the trees in the same area I planted new ones and took pictures to show him.

The results

On day 4 of returning to the woodland area, I noticed that all the bird food had gone from the bird feeders. I collected the twine that had stayed hanging onto the trees to re-use another time.



Share

- Friends and family

My friends and family shared the
john muir award experience with me
from start to finish.

- Staff

I shared my experience with the John Muir Award with the staff I work with to show them the importance of sustainability

- Children

I set up a child friendly tuft tray to encourage children to ask questions and learn more about what I did.





Thank you for
listening

