



The John Muir Award

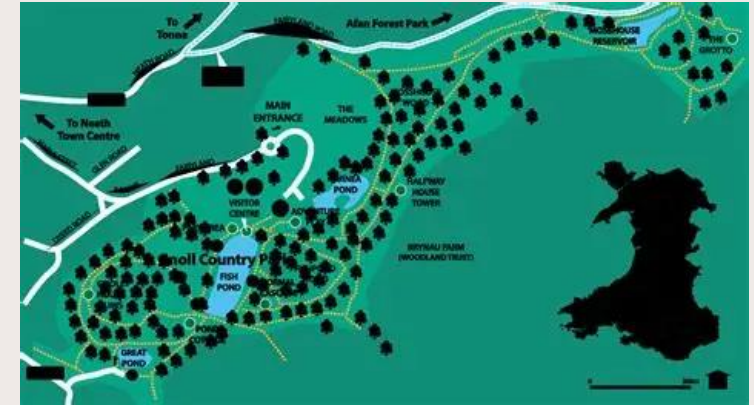
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The Gnoll Country Park



Discover



(Myplace.wales, 2026)

The site I selected for the John Muir Award was the Gnock Estate Country Park. Located in Neath, South Wales. I chose the Gnock Country Park because it is a well-maintained natural environment close to me and where I am from. Whilst I have visited the Gnock Country Park before, I had never considered its Sustainability.





Explore

The Large wooden entrance sign welcomes visitors to the Gnoll Country Park and marks the beginning of the nature reserve. The sign reflects the parks natural setting as it using wood for the whole sign rather than metal or plastic. Using natural materials to compliment the nature environment, creating a positive first impression. The sign is also home to many different types of insects reinforcing how sustainable they are.



I noticed many different wildlife habitats including ponds and woodlands.

The lakes and ponds attract different types of wildlife including ducks which the visitors are welcome to feed. Bringing an excellent opportunity for people to observe wildlife.



The woodland areas are home to different animals including birds which I spotted within the Country Park.



Conserve

When I visited the Gnoll Country Park, there was the opportunity to create bug hotels using natural or recycled materials, including small sticks, bark, pinecones and leaves. Placing them in quiet areas within the woodland.



This supports local biodiversity and helps maintain ecosystems.