

## Become an Explorers Volunteer

### What needs doing:

The Canal & River Trust believes that learning can be transformative by building knowledge and skills. We have learning programmes that reach out to children, young people and families in the communities we serve.

Explorers volunteers are vital to our ability to deliver learning in schools, club houses, museums and out along the towpath. We need people who can help us run classroom sessions, talk at school assemblies, take groups on guided walks and participate in arranging fun hands-on activities (such as pond dipping) for families, classes and groups.

### What's in it for you?

**Satisfaction:** First and foremost, we hope you will find volunteering is enjoyable and fulfilling.

**Experience:** You will work with the Trust's learning & skills team to deliver the Explorers programme for primary school aged children and the STEM programme for secondary school children.

**Confidence:** This will come from being the public face of the Trust, delivering learning and great experiences to children, young people and families

**Skills:** We help our volunteers gain transferrable skills and insights that can be used in future job applications and employment.

### Your role would include:

**Leading or providing support** in activity sessions at schools, online, at clubhouses for uniform children's groups, in the Trust's museums, and outdoors on the towpath.

### Contact with children, young people and families.

Some of this contact would be unsupervised, but you will have a monthly team meeting with a learning supervisor.

**Working with a diverse range of members** of the community including children, their families, carers, teachers and group leaders, some of whom who may need additional support.

**Being available once a month** would be great – but you can volunteer more as we have plenty of demand.

### What skills do you need?

To be **good with people**, both face to face and friendly telephone/email manner.

To be **good at communicating** with children and families, but also with their teachers, carers and group leaders. Prior teaching, community engagement or interpretive experience would be ideal, but not essential.

To know about **leading outdoors activities** – especially about the risks involved (we provide training on how to manage them).

To be a **good organiser**.

To be both a **team player** and also someone who is happy to get on with a task on your own.

To have an **understanding of safeguarding issues** around working with children and vulnerable adults. Full training will be provided on this.

To have the **ability to travel locally** to where activities are taking place.

