

# TEACHING PACK

BRUNSWOOD FARM IS A 375 ACRE WORKING DAIRY FARM SITUATED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF DERBY. IT IS FARMED BY GEOFF, ROSEMARY AND OLIVER BROWN, WHO CAME TO THE FARM IN 1989. PREVIOUSLY, GEOFF'S PARENTS HAD BEEN ON THE FARM SINCE 1953.

## THE LAND

- 275 acres around the house and buildings on a 45 year farm Business Tenancy.
- Owned by The Trustees of the Locko Park Estates.
- A block of 100 acres 1 mile away from the main farm is owned by the family.
- The farm lies on a clay based soil.
- Gently undulating landscape



## THE COWS

- 90 Holstein Friesian Cows in the milking herd.
- At any time there are an additional 100 young stock.
- The herd is closed – all cows are reared on the farm.
- Summer grazing.
- The farm produces 600,000 litres of milk per year.
- 570,000 litres are sold directly to Tesco, through ARLA milk.
- The family make 30,000 litres of milk per year into ice cream.



## THE CROPS

- Grass is the main crop on the farm – grassland.
- Maize, wheat and barley are grown for use as Winterfodder for the cattle.



## THE ICE CREAM - FARM DIVERSIFICATION

- The family diversified into Ice Cream production in 1998, when they started producing a beautiful creamy artisan (handmade) ice cream – Bluebells Ice Cream - from the milk from their cows. It has won major awards in both the UK and Italy.
- The Ice Cream is sold on the farm through the Bluebells Tea Room and Ice Cream Parlour.
- Ice Cream is also wholesaled to local Restaurants, Gastro-pubs, Farm Shops and Visitor Attractions.



## THE BLUEBELLS ANIMAL PATCH

- Animal feeding
- Animal care
- Baby animals
- Animal petting



## FARM SUSTAINABILITY

The Farm is heavily committed to Sustainability - Higher Level Stewardship.

### Increasing Biodiversity by:

- Planting buffer strips around the edge of arable fields-animal passages.
- Hedgerow management.
- Planting strips with seed mixes to support a variety of habitats – wild bird seed mixes for Farmland and Woodland birds. Nectar mixes for insects.
- Use of solar panels.
- Reduction of Food Miles – Practising Farm to Fork with Ice Cream production.
- Pollinator counts.



## SPECIES/ FEATURES OF INTEREST

- Ridge and Furrow
- Greater crested Newts
- Water Vole
- Barn Owl



## ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE

Visits tailored to all stages of the National Curriculum

Producing food	The story of from ' Cow to Cone'
Bluebells Animal Feeding	A Diversification Study
How to care for Animals	Animal Care Workshop
Nature Trail	Mini Beasts
Ice Cream Making	Bird feeder making, Butter making, Countryside Pizzas. Autumn Leaves
Producing food - growing Crops	Hedgerows
The Seasons and the Farming Year	Suitable for 2 – 10 Years
Conservation on the Farm	Habitat Studies
Play Area	History of the Farm

(School visits tailor made to learning objectives- please contact us for further information)

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Bluebells @ Brunswood Farm

FARM WALK + LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

KEY

- 1) Farm Drive
- 2) Tea Room/Ice Cream Parlour
- 3) Rural Classroom
- 4) Play Area
  - Sand area swings frames slides mud pie kitchen
- 5) Animal Patches
  - Domestic + Street Animals
  - Animal Care
  - Animals and their young
  - What animals give to us
- 6) Hedgerows
  - Habitat study
- 7) Field edging strips sown with bird seed awazot
  - Farm and + Woodland Birds
  - Habitats
- 8) Historic Landscape
  - Ridge + Furrow
- 9) Pond - Protected Species:
  - Greater Crested Newts
- 10) Arable Land:
  - Farm Crops
  - The Sireens
- 11) 6 Metre Buffer Strip
- 12) Grassland:
  - Cow Pasture
  - Habitats
  - From cow to cone
- 13) Ancient Trees
- 14) Milking Parlour
  - From Cow to Cone
  - Ice Cream Production
  - From Cow to Cone

