



WESTON
MUSEUM



PRESS RELEASE

Children to make bug hotels for Wild Escape Project

Local children will be taking part in an exciting project to create work inspired by the wildlife in our urban green spaces and make 2 bug hotels. The learning team at Weston Museum have been awarded funding from the Art Fund through the Wild Escape project to lead sessions exploring the creatures on our doorsteps and how we can help them. The children will take part in some creative sessions and go on to assist with the building of 2 bug hotels to be placed in Ellenborough Park East and the Milton Road Cemetery.

Sessions are being offered to local home educating families and to children at Westhaven, a local SEN school, over the coming months. The final outcomes of the project will then be celebrated with an event in Ellenborough Park East on Earth Day (Saturday 22nd April 2023). This will be a free family friendly event where people can come along to the park to see one of the bug hotels and take part in free hands on activities that explore our urban wildlife and what we can do to support it. Details of this event, including times will be available from Weston Museum in the coming months.

'Whilst we might not think it, we are surrounded by pockets of green space in our town, from back gardens to open parks and woodland. These spaces are home to all sorts of wildlife from butterflies and beetles to badgers and foxes. We're excited to be exploring these creatures and creating some work inspired by them. This will lead to 2 bug hotels that will hopefully create homes for insects and help support the nature on our doorstep' – Katherine Bell, Learning and Events Officer

These bug hotels will be created with the support of the team from Play Wild C.I.C Forest School, an outdoor education and play provider. The project will also culminate with the creation of a Teacher's Pack that will be sent out to surrounding schools, containing information and activity guides on leading a similar project within the school setting.

The Wild Escape is made possible by lead support from Arts Council England's National Lottery Project Grants, with additional support from Art Fund.



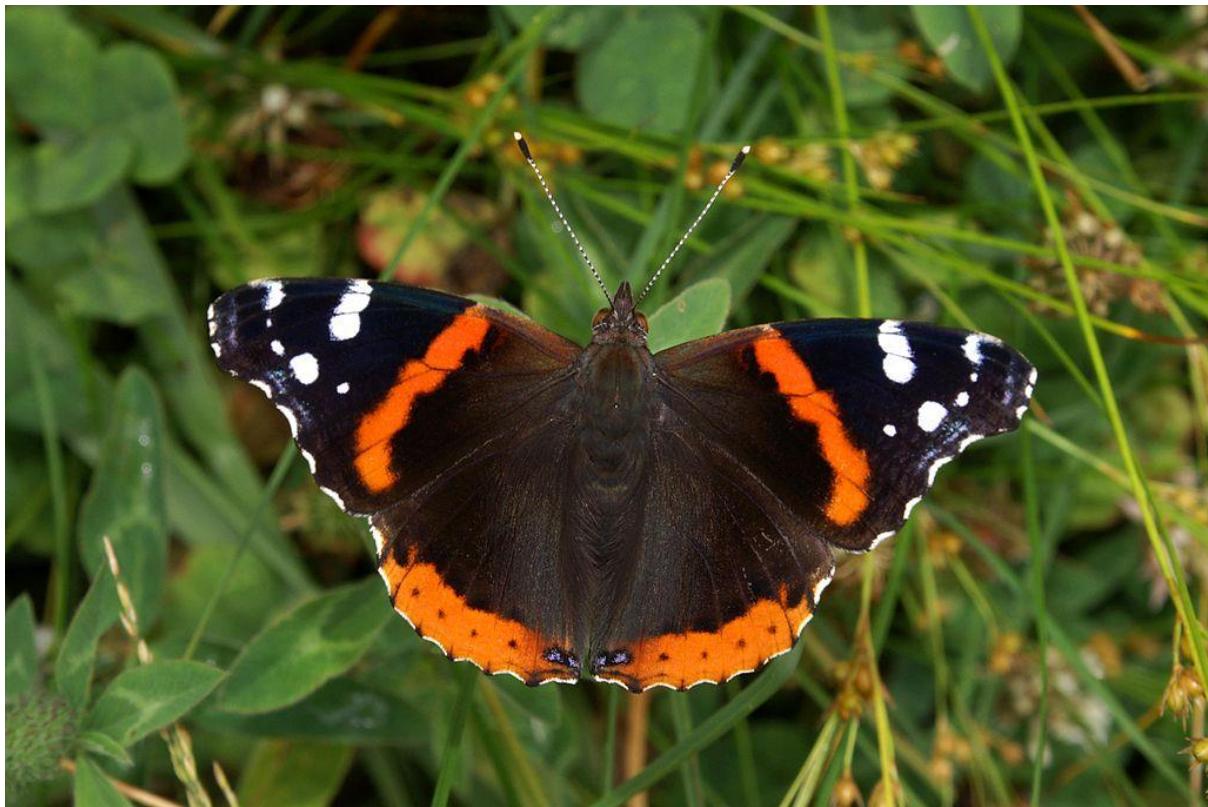


Image 1 – Red Admiral butterfly

For further information about Weston Museum, please see the website –
www.westonmuseum.org, contact the museum team on 01934 621028 or email to
katherine.bell@wsm-tc.gov.uk

Art Fund



About Art Fund

Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. It provides millions of pounds every year to help museums to acquire and share works of art across the UK (United Kingdom), further the professional development of their curators, and inspire more people to visit and enjoy their public programmes. Art Fund is independently funded, supported by Art Partners, donors, trusts and foundations and the 130,000 members who buy the National Art Pass, who receive free entry to over 240 museum, galleries, and historic places, 50% off major exhibitions, and receive quarterly Art Magazine. Art Fund also supports museums through its annual prize, Art Fund Museum of the Year. The winner of Art Fund Museum of the Year 2022 is Horniman Museums and Gardens. www.artfund.org

About Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let's Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. www.artscouncil.org.uk

About Museum Development England

Museum Development England is a network of the 9 English region's Museum Development providers and practitioners in England. Its overarching goal is to support diverse, inclusive, and innovative museums that welcome people from all backgrounds. Together it creates a thriving museum sector by raising standards, driving excellence, and supporting people working in museums. www.mduk.org.uk

Weston Museum is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council England and Coastal Revival

