

Integrating Families and Community Together (InFaCT)

Project Case Vignette – Monmouthshire – 2023

The InFaCT project is made up of Family and Community Links Coordinators, and sets out with the aim of increasing the visibility and links between existing community responses to problems. Contact infact@monmouthshire.gov.uk for more info.

We were introduced to the 'Buckholt project' – a project that was seeking funding to enable children from a disadvantaged background to partake in a series of outdoor activities run by Gwent Wildlife Trust, so to enhance their wellbeing.

Our community links coordinator liaised with the project manager and a Young Carers team to arrange a full day of activities for a group of 8 Young people of varying ages. On arrival there was an introduction and ice breaker to get to know everyone and everyone seemed to enjoy it. The group was split into 2 and heading out on a GPS treasure hunt, which led us around the site and gave the opportunity for young people to hear about the type of wildlife that could be found at the site. On return to the site, lunch was eaten and the children had some free time to enjoy the wood and its surrounding, making forts and dens with branches and foliage. There was the opportunity to make fires to toast marshmallows and all got very involved in this.

Feedback given from the young people and the young carers team who attended was that it was a very positive experience and was thoroughly enjoyed. Some of the comments given were that they didn't want the day to end, it was a nice break from their home and caring responsibilities, they hoped they could attend again. As a service we aim to open up this opportunity where our partnership with Buckholt allows in the next year.