



We Are Nature

Connected by Nature

Ayrshire Countryside Ranger Service We Are Nature has been awarded a £5,000 grant from the SafeDeposits Scotland Community Fund to provide free access to outdoor learning experiences for families and community members with their nature-based education project 'Connected by Nature'.

Led by Joanne Johnstone, a Countryside Ranger and founder of We Are Nature, the project aims to connect people with nature, promote wellbeing, improve employability skills, and support environmental education and sustainability, all of which help to improve the local community.

The funding will enable Joanne to offer fully funded spaces for Nature Workshops, Toddler walks, Home Education family groups and a skill share programme for Early Years Practitioner Students, ensuring that children, families, and individuals can engage in hands-on learning experiences regardless of financial barriers.

"We are thrilled to receive this support from SafeDeposits Scotland," said Joanne Johnstone.

"This funding allows us to continue delivering immersive nature experiences that inspire curiosity, build confidence, and strengthen connections between people and the natural world."

The project will run throughout 2025, with sessions covering topics such as wildlife observation, conservation skills, outdoor crafts, and cultural heritage. Sessions will take place in Eglinton Country Park and other outdoor locations across Ayrshire.

Alan Partridge, Marketing Manager at SafeDeposits Scotland, said: "Connected by Nature promises to foster community connections and environmental awareness. We are delighted to be supporting We Are Nature in this initiative with a grant from the SafeDeposits Scotland Community Fund."

For updates on the project Connected by Nature and upcoming workshops click [here](#).