

# WILD YOUR SPACE

Wild your school  
Rewild your children

## What is Rewilding/ Nature Restoration?

Undoubtedly, rewilding means different things to different people, and almost everyone you ask will give you a different definition.

One definition that we can relate to is provided by Scotland the Big Picture, who say....

“For us, rewilding is an evolving process of nature recovery that leads to restored ecosystem health, function and completeness”



**Scotland The Big Picture** then expand as follows...

Our view of rewilding is built around these principles:

- Providing the space and conditions for dynamic **natural processes** to shape and govern Scotland's **land and seas**.
- Recognising the critical role of **all species** – including missing native species – in sustaining functioning food webs and other ecological interactions.
- Nurturing nature recovery at **different scales** and accepting that approaches to rewilding can look and feel quite different, and still offer valuable benefits.
- Improving **connectivity** across fragmented habitats to give species more freedom to roam, supporting **biodiversity recovery and climate resilience**.
- Helping **communities** to prosper in a diverse, **nature-based economy** that works in tandem with ecological recovery.

[www.brightgreennature.org/wildyourspace](http://www.brightgreennature.org/wildyourspace)

Sadly, it is hard to ignore some of the negative publicity associated with the word rewilding (which is one reason that we prefer to talk about nature restoration), but whatever you call it, and however we look at it, our current way of life is simply unsustainable and something has to change. We **all** need fresh air, clean water and healthy food, and without making changes, even these most basic requirements, that support our life on this planet, are at risk.

Most people are surprised to hear that Scotland is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world, especially as we attract visitors from around the world, many of whom come to see our stunning scenery. But the truth is that Scotland is not as it should be. In fact **we are ranked 212<sup>th</sup> out of 240 countries for the state of its nature**, according to the Biodiversity Intactness Index – and we are ahead of England, Wales and Ireland!

The good news is that there are a huge number of projects taking place all over Scotland, and things are starting to change. As awareness increases and as more people and organisations work together, then the speed of change will increase and gather momentum.

In the Borders you don't have to look far to discover rewilding activities, large and small, happening all around us. Such as...

- Bright Green Nature
- Glenlude (John Muir Trust)
- Berwickshire Marine Reserve
- Carrifran (Borders Forest Trust)
- Faldonside Eco

**And** – Schools, Parks, Farms and Gardens almost everywhere you look!

**This is why for us –  
Rewilding is hope!**

And, we hope that you will join is on this rewilding/nature restoration journey – where **Bright Green Nature** will support and advise you in any way that we can. If you are hesitating, consider this...

**“The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.”**

Robert Swan



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