

Glenveagh National Park
A Place to Learn

National School Learning Module

Glenveagh: Past, Present & Future



Páirceanna Náisiúnta
National Parks

Journey through the valley of Glenveagh and hear about how this spectacular place has been shaped over time. Long before humans ever arrived, nature was here and begins the story of the Glenveagh we know today. We will take your group through both natural and cultural history and highlight the challenges and opportunities of looking after the Park for the future.



Who is this Module For?

- Recommended for 4th class upwards and older age groups who want a real outdoor adventure.
- Can be delivered by walking down the Glen Path (7km) or by a shorter version on the Lakeside Walk (3.5km)
- Excellent choice if you are doing a history or geography project in class or want to link nature and biodiversity to more subjects across the curriculum.

Learning Outcomes: What Your Group Can Expect

- Understand how plants, animals and eventually people came to Glenveagh and how they are interconnected.
- Develop an appreciation of how glaciation shaped and formed the valley here.
- Gain greater knowledge of human and natural environments up to the present day hear about conservation and tourism, as we care for the Parks future.
- Learn to read and use maps, hands on activities, discussion and debates.



Before You Visit

- Cover topics such as the ice age and learn some facts about glaciers and what a u-shaped valley is.
- Look at maps of Donegal, ask your students to find the Park and then look for any other valleys. Look at old historical maps and discuss how things have or haven't changed.
- Do some preparation work on native trees or animals - what does the word 'native' mean and why is it important for biodiversity?
- Explore the history of humans in Ulster and Ireland as a whole. How have people changed our landscape, either positively or negatively?

Follow Up Back in Class

- We always welcome any artwork or poetry based on your visit or young peoples ideas for the future of the Park.
- Choose an aspect of the days visit, such as glaciers or an extinct animal and do a research project with your students based on it.
- Other related strands of the curriculum include rocks and soils, weather, climate change and atmosphere, time and chronology and human use of natural resources.
- Select one of the other National Parks in Ireland and compare them to Glenveagh in a study.



Suitable clothing and footwear is essential.



Healthy packed lunches and plenty to drink are important on longer walks.



If you are opting for the walk down the Glen Path, we can meet your group at the head of the valley or Church Hill village.