

Barney

Mark Farnham

With a deep interest in outdoor play, Mark Farnham, known as Barney, has worked with Swainswick Explorers since 2007. Barney has a natural ability to make good connections with children and young people and loves to facilitate their exploration of nature.

He is a leader on Swainswick Explorer Days, taking groups of children on countryside Explorer walks and has facilitated a number of workshops on fire making and shelter building, as well as sessions for the Link School. As a playleader with the Explorers' after-school club he consistently and creatively develops and facilitates outdoor play.

Barney has gained playwork qualifications including Take 5, Everyone Can Play (focus on Inclusion) and CACHE Diploma Level 3 in Playwork. He is Paediatric First Aid trained and has completed short courses in Food Safety in Catering and Managing Violence and Aggression. He has an enhanced CRB.

Barney has lived in Bath his whole life and before choosing to become a playleader and outdoor practitioner worked in catering - he brings a wealth of life experience to his role. He works particularly alongside young people with challenges, and disabled children.

Children and young people find Barney a good listener and a great mentor. He combines working one-on-one with facilitating group work and currently works with Time to Share, Bath Area Play Project, Direct payments Projects and Mentoring Plus.

OUR EMPLOYEES ARE INSURED WITH 'INSTITUTE OF OUTDOOR LEARNING' AND ALL PROJECTS COME WITH BENEFITS/RISK ASSESSMENTS.

Bath based **Swainswick Explorers** are specialists in providing stimulating and adventurous outdoor play and learning opportunities for children.

Swainswick Explorers
Upper Swainswick House
Tadwick Lane
Bath

BA1 8BU
email: rachel@playingoutdoors.org
web: www.playingoutdoors.org



FIRE AND COOKING

BARNEY IS HIGHLY SKILLED AT FIRECRAFT, HAVING LED WORKSHOPS ON CREATING FIRE BY FRICTION. COMBINING THIS EXPERTISE WITH HIS ABILITIES IN SHELTER BUILDING AND COOKING ENSURES YOUNG PEOPLE CAN LEARN THE LIFE SKILLS OF HOW TO KEEP THEMSELVES WARM AND FED USING AN OPEN FIRE.



WOODWORKING & CRAFT

BARNEY HAS A KEEN INTEREST IN GREEN WOODWORKING (WORKING WITH VERY RECENTLY CHOPPED WOOD STILL GREEN UNDER THE BARK) AND EXPERIENCE TEACHING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SPOON CARVING, WHITTLING, MAKING BOWS AND STAFFS. PICTURE SHOWS WEAVING.



NATURE

WHILST EXPLORING NATURE AND PLAYING OUTDOORS, BARNEY CAN IDENTIFY AND TALK ABOUT PLANTS AND TREES, AS WELL AS SHARING ABOUT FORAGING FOR FOOD.