



Background to Discover

Discover Children's Story Centre in Stratford, east London, is an award-winning interactive literature venue providing creative, play and learning opportunities for children aged 0-11 years and their parents/carers. Discover aims to contribute to long-term improvements in the life chances and quality of life for children, through provision of high-quality creative learning opportunities.

Set up and opened in 2003, as a response to the need for a hands-on learning resource for children and families in East London, Discover is registered charity number 1070468. Over the past 13 years, the centre has delivered an extensive community and education programme targeting vulnerable and disadvantaged children, focussing on developing literacy, oracy and listening through stories and children's literature.

Discover works with over 100,000 children and adults a year, with 69% of our visitors coming from our 5 local boroughs (London Boroughs of Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Barking and Dagenham and Tower Hamlets). These are among the poorest areas in the country, with an estimated 60% defined as vulnerable and disadvantaged, living in extreme poverty, social exclusion and isolation.

Corporate Volunteer Garden and Maintenance Days

We are grateful to the corporate teams who work with Discover to maintain and improve the wonderful Story Garden. Supported by a landscape gardener teams help to complete the tidy up including weeding and pruning, laying of new play bark, painting the play equipment and planting new plants including the sensory garden. The work is physical but it is always really satisfying and helps maintain the garden for children aged 0-11 and their parents and carers. Activities usually include general maintenance; shrub planting; landscaping; creating play areas; creating wildlife habitats; litter picking and painting. If the weather is terrible, there may also be some internal painting and maintenance work.

Dates: Subject to confirmation.

Time: Volunteers are asked to arrive at 9.30am to start the day with a tour of Discover. Tea breaks will occur during the day and you will have an hour for lunch at 1pm. The day should finish no later than 16:30.

Address:

383-387 High Street
Stratford
London E15 4QZ

Nearest Tube station:

Tube/DLR : Stratford
Discover is five minutes from Stratford Station - Jubilee Line, Central Line, DLR, Overground, National Rail Services and bus stations.



Map: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Discover+Children's+Story+Centre>

Lunch, tea making arrangements and toilets facilities:
Volunteers will have access to water and a kitchen on site.

Lunch can be purchased from local shops, or volunteers may wish to bring a packed lunch.

What to wear:

Please wear clothes that you don't mind getting a bit dirty. Please consider weather and seasonal factors such as the need for waterproofs and warm layers. Most volunteers wear jeans on charity days.

Discover will provide all gloves and safety equipment. Discover will undertake a Risk Assessment prior to the day and their supervisors will start the day with an H&S talk.



For further details please contact **Kathy Everett**, Head of Development at Discover on 020 8536 4459 or development@discover.org.uk.