

Green pupils hit the small screen

MINI conservationists at Bowker Vale Primary School will see themselves on TV as part of a project to get closer to nature.

The Year Five pupils were filmed making bird boxes at Blackley Forest as part of a scheme to get young people using the park more.

Producers approached the Friends of Blackley Forest wanting to film projects involving environmental education.

The group have been told they will appear on BBC2's Nature's Calendar programme on 12 February.

Chair of governors Jack Taylor, who is also acting chairman of the forest's Friends committee, said: "The kids loved it. There were 30 of them, so we had two groups. One went on a walk around the

forest while the other made the nest boxes, then they swapped round.

"They were there about two hours and were lapping up the attention."

The nest boxes the children made will now be put up around the school grounds.

Dot Keller, from the Friends of Blackley Forest, said: "Working with local schools is one way of introducing children into the forest and doing something practical such as bird box making gives them a real sense that they are contributing to the conservation of birds in the forest.

"We want the forest to go on from strength to strength and for this to happen we need more people to be actively involved."

Anyone wanting to get involved in enjoying the park can contact Dot Keller on 0161 795 0900.



ABOVE: Bowker Vale's Aimee uses a spotting scope to ID birds.

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BELOW: Dave Barlow talks to the children about nest boxes.

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