

Teenagers experience live on a Ribble Valley farm

3:25pm Tuesday 22nd November 2011

TEENAGERS from a local college were given a taste of country life as part of a new project.

The group, who have a range of disabilities, took part in the 'sensory rich' farm experience in the Ribble Valley.

They were given the opportunity to see cows being milked, and even had a go at making butter at the 800-acre New Laund Farm, nestled in rural Whitewell.

The scheme is run by the Let Nature Feed Your Senses (LNFYS) – a Big Lottery-funded project that aims to get disabled children, and those from deprived backgrounds, into the countryside with free farm visits.

The teenagers were from Myerscough College.

Project co-ordinator James Taylor said: "It's sometimes said that children in cities don't know where milk comes from.

"Most of us these days have little experience of farming, and this is especially true for people who have difficulty getting out to the countryside.

"Let Nature Feed Your Senses gives children, people with disabilities, and older people, the chance to experience food production first-hand, up close and personal."

In the past youngsters from inner city schools, groups with learning disabilities, and elderly people with dementia, have been able to take part in the visits 'bringing them closer to nature'.

Mr Taylor said: "There's no substitute for hands-on experience, and sensory-rich visits allow visitors to touch, smell, hear and taste food production as it happens, in a safe, accessible environment, guided by friendly farmers and nature experts who know the places like the backs of their hands."

Youngsters were given a trailer ride around the farm, which sits 500ft above sea level on the banks of the River Hodder and spans heather moorland.

They were then given a tour and saw some of the 800 breeding ewes, 40 dairy cows, and young stock and beef cattle, before settling down for lunch with views of the wading birds.

To organise a visit get details from the website below.

[Back](#)

© Copyright 2001-2011 Newsquest Media Group

<http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk>

http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/education/9377916.Teenagers_experience_live_on_a_Ribble_Valley_farm/