



Pupils of Dalmally Primary School, who took part in the Learning Landscapes project with tutor Sam Harrison, right, estate manager Donald Dempster and gamekeeper Mark Brown. 07_r26dal01

Dalmally pupils take their classroom to the great outdoors

PUPILS at Dalmally Primary School made the great outdoors their classroom as they took part in a unique project to learn more about the area's ecology and history.

Primary six and seven pupils had the run of the nearby Glenstrae Estate for their Learning Landscapes project, under the tutelage of ecology consultant Sam Harri-

son, from Taynult. Sam has worked with various groups through his business, Open Ground, but is keen to roll out the six-week project to other schools in the area.

He said: 'We spent six Fridays out of the classroom, learning about how the estate works and playing fun games and exercises.

'We put up a teepee in the

pouring rain. The kids got muddy but had great fun.

'Teaching children about their local area in the classroom, alone, is not enough; they need something to connect it with.'

Glenstrae Estate manager Donald Dempster was delighted to take part in the project and gave a sheep shearing demonstration as part of their

children's learning.

Mr Dempster and gamekeeper Mark Brown were given thank you gifts by the pupils at an event in the school last Monday, where their work was showcased.

Teacher Jane Gibson said: 'The whole thing was such a novelty for the children, that they were learning without realising it.'