



## Transcript for:

# British Schools Exploring Society: Life on expedition

*[funky bass guitar solo]*

**Title: Jungle, arctic and mountain expeditions**

*[Funky bass guitar with drums]*

**Title: Young people from all walks of life**

*[Funky bass guitar with drums]*

**Title: A once in a lifetime experience**

*[Funky bass guitar with drums]*

**Title: Exploration and adventure**

*[Funky bass guitar with drums]*

**Title: Understanding and giving back to our world**

*[Funky bass guitar with drums]*

**Title: Physically and mentally challenging**

*[Funky bass guitar with drums]*

**Title: Fundraising to preserve our fragile environment**

**Title: BSES Expeditions British schools exploring society**

*[melodic, atmospheric music]*

**Title: Mountain expeditions**

**Daniel Irwing:**

Getting up to Marine camp is a buzz-

You open up your tent door and there'll be a glacier below you and you get that brief minute of 'am I really here?' It was pretty fantastic.

**Alice Dowell:**

When you see them in the distance, you don't really take them into account.

But when you get so close to them the people are like this big and it's just so cool.

**Peter Wilkinson:**

When we arrived the temperatures were minus 25 which is a big shock to the system.

Even though we were coming out of winter in England it's still a lot colder out there.

There is very little daylight so the initial arriving there was very strange.

**Emma Cooke:**

We started off on 3 boats with the boys on one and the girls on the other which was quite nice as there was loads of space but as the river narrowed, we separated off and we all stuck on one boat.

**Haris Ahmed:**

It was a very very tranquil place when you just hit the lake it was just absolutely huge, I didn't anticipate it being so absolutely massive and that's one of the stunning things about it, it's completely isolated, you can go on to the banks of the lake and look for miles around and there's just nothing but rainforest. That's quite surreal.

**Edward Steele:**

Living together with twelve other people, for a month, in a tent is a really big step, I think, but everyone rises to that challenge and is aware of that and the preparation that BSES give is great.

**Title: The Science**

**Peter Wilkinson:**

We had 3 or 4 science projects the main one involved surveying glaciers to see their rate of movement and then we also did a bit of fossil hunting and we were looking for snow algae samples.

**Yann Rashid:**

We learnt about, for example, global warming straight away simply because, on arrival, our plan was to cross a frozen ford. That year the ford had not frozen and that changed all our plans.

**Haris Ahmed:**

One of my favourite projects was where you do a 5 kilometre hike through the jungle with a couple of biologists, it's normally done in pairs - two young explorers, a couple of biologists and someone that helps cut the transect because not all of them were pre-cut so you were kind of slicing through the jungle with a machete which is pretty cool.

**Emma Cooke:**

My favourite was the turtles actually we all went onto the beaches and would look for the eggs, collect them and take them back to the hut and sort of bury them and wait for them to hatch.

**Daniel Irwing:**

It was fantastic catching all these exotic species of birds - things like the humming birds that were fantastic colours it was a once in a lifetime experience, I don't envisage myself ever holding a humming bird again.

**Haris Ahmed:**

Basically you go out in a boat, you look for crocodiles in the water and you noose them, catch them and bring them into the boat and measure them and stuff. Some of them were quite docile, some of the smaller ones, I mean, we caught a very very large one, we caught a 2 1/2 meter one I think which was one of the biggest the guys have caught and you measure and you do all these different measurements and that's quite good because it helps to see how the species is developing and also which type of species is in the area which is all essential work really for conservationists.

**Title: Exploration and adventure**

**Emma Cooke:**

In the jungle, when you're sleeping in the tents you can hear all the animals at night time.

**Yann Rashid:**

Being there was just amazing, just the scenery, looking out on to frozen fords, looking at the

sunset, looking at the midnight sun, looking at the northern lights. We saw tonnes of dolphins jumping and it was really really exciting and the first one we saw everyone was pointing out going: 'Oh look, there's a dolphin over there, there's a dolphin to the right!' Every day was really exciting and every day was something new and you just come to expect that.

### **Title: The People**

#### **Haris Ahmed:**

The people were amazing, it was a really good mix of people, I was a bit nervous at the briefing weekend, I was like 'Oo what are people going to be like?', 'are they all gonna be, like, super trooper, sort of really expeditionary based people' but it was nice to meet people from all over the country with a very wider range of interests.

#### **Lucy Flaherty:**

It was really nice as well to meet people from different cultures to you, you know, they've had different upbringings and just to get away from what you've been brought up with really.

### **Title: Physical Fitness**

#### **Daniel Irwing:**

The physical side was well paced because we were at altitude, there was no pushing yourself too hard you went at the pace of the slowest person so I never felt that I or anyone else was left out from any of the experiences.

#### **Edward Steele:**

If someone's struggling and you want to push on, then you pick up some of their kit and carry it for them and that really balances it out.

#### **Alice Dowell:**

It is a big physical challenge, that's sort of the point so if it had been easier I wouldn't have got so much from the expedition.

#### **Peter Wilkinson:**

All the little grumbles you heard at the beginning and all the worry it just went out the window, you just adapted to a different way of life and you become used to living in those conditions and just don't have any problems I found.

### **Title: Fundraising**

#### **Yann Rashid:**

Fundraising - at first I thought I can't really do it and I'd really have difficulty with all of the deadlines but, in the end, it worked out.

#### **Lucy Flaherty:**

When you're on the expedition, you actually think to yourself 'I funded myself to do this' and it gets a lot more as the expedition because you know your parents haven't been paying it.

### **Title: Lessons Learned**

#### **Haris Ahmed:**

I think I learnt a lot about interaction with people and getting along with completely different people who, perhaps, didn't have much in common with me but we all had to knuckle down and work together, sleep together, live together, cook together.

#### **Lucy Flaherty:**

When you're put into a situation where, you are in a group of 7 people who you don't know at all, you really do have to work as a team to get the job done for the day.

**Peter Wilkinson:**

From thinking that I wasn't a very strong character I realised that when someone needs to take the lead, I can do that quite well.

**Daniel Irwing:**

I feel that after the expedition I'm kinda a much more confident and capable person.

**Title: Are you up to the challenge?**

**Lucy Flaherty:**

Other people that are considering going on a BSES expedition I would say definitely go for it. It's one of the most amazing experiences, I mean I have got friends on other expeditions with other companies and looking at their photos and looking at my photos, their experiences and everything compared I think I'd say I've got alot more out of it and achieved alot more and also, not only do you get to do the trekking but, with the science work as well, its like an integrated thing which, I think, just makes it alot more interesting.

**Edwards Steele:**

I think certainly go for it, it really is the experience of a lifetime.

*[Electronic music]*

**Title: BSES Expeditions British schools exploring society**

[www.bses.org.uk](http://www.bses.org.uk)

[www.campaignproductions.com](http://www.campaignproductions.com)

