

Nature Explorers

Explore the woodland with a nature walk making sticky cards, sensory games and a hunt for minibeasts

Years: Preschool - KS1	Total Duration: 2 hours
Curriculum Links Early Years Goals 'Ourselves' and early learning goals for knowledge and understanding of the world 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 Plants: 'identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees'	
Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
- Identify living things as those which feed, move and use their senses to investigate objects - Find out about, and identify, some features of living things, objects and events they observe - Look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change - Observe, find out about and identify features in the natural world	All children will be able to group things seen as 'living' or 'non-living' and understand the importance of handling living things with care Most children will be able to name two of the animals found and state differences and similarities between them Some children will be able to group animals by their similarities

Programme Summary

This session gives pupils an opportunity to discover the woodland and its inhabitants. After a short introductory talk in the centre the children will travel up to the wildlife area to explore the woods. In the woods the pupils will enjoy a nature walk and collect leaves and seeds on sticky cards. They will then carry out a minibeast hunt and have the chance to examine and compare the range of minibeasts that live in the woodland.

Pre-visit Preparation

If you have not visited the centre before a pre-visit is essential.

It helps to brief the children before a visit. Talk through the activities that they will be doing and discuss key vocabulary. What is a woodland? What animals might live in a wood? Where do minibeasts like to live? What minibeasts do they know?

Pre-visit ideas	Post-visit ideas
Work on woodlands and what a minibeast is would be of benefit Minibeast hunt in school grounds	Drawing or model of their favourite minibeast Class work on differences and similarities of minibeasts and humans Pattern work based on bark and leaf rubbings

Please refer to our Health & Safety Information for risk assessments and an outline of the school and Ecology Centre responsibilities.