

**PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK
LEARNING & DISCOVERY TEAM
TEACHERS NOTES – NATURE DISCOVERY**



Age range: Y1 – Y2	Duration: 10.00 – 14.30	Available: April to October
Locations available: Longdendale, Macclesfield Forest, Moorland Discovery Centre.		

This is a day of exploration and discovery of our woodland wildlife areas and ponds, and introduces pupils to different habitats through an immersive and hands-on programme.

Activities provided as part of the day include:

- Exploring a woodland habitat and discovering the diversity of invertebrates that live in it
- Exploring a freshwater (pond) habitat and discovering the diversity of invertebrates that live in it
- Exploring how different animals use different dominant senses to explore their habitat, and to survive
- Observing differences between different trees and identifying some native British trees

Depending on location and/or the season, you may:

- Identify, sort, and group a selection of (toy) animals in different ways
- Discover and discuss a variety of evidence that many different animals live in our local habitats
- Learn about simple food chains through games and practical activities
- Record different leaf shapes and patterns through the creation of leaf rubbings
- Observe and record different bark textures through the creation of bark rubbings
- Measure and compare the heights of different trees through simple practical experiments

Important Notes for this Programme:

Seasonality: Although we offer this programme from April to October, it is most suited to May/June/July, as these are the months when the invertebrates we will find and study are most abundant and show the greatest diversity.

Clothing: We believe experiencing the outdoor elements is an integral part of the day and continue activities in all but the very worst weather. So please come prepared to be outside in rain or shine! See [What-to-Wear.pdf \(peakdistrict.gov.uk\)](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/What-to-Wear.pdf)

Capturing and recording your pupils' experiences: We do not use any worksheets in our programmes for younger pupils. Therefore, we encourage you to bring a camera or phone/tablet to capture and record your children's experiences and to help you document their learning journey.

We strive to make our visits accessible to all. Days can be tailored to your group's needs. While many of our sites are accessible to people with limited mobility, we advise you to discuss your particular needs with us before booking.

Main Curriculum Links:

Science Working scientifically: e.g. Observing closely, using simple equipment; Identifying and classifying. Living things and their habitats. Animals including humans

Maths

Measurement

Physical Education

Outdoor activity

Key Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
<p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify that most living things live in a habitats to which they are suited. Explore how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants. Using basic fieldwork equipment correctly. Identify and name a variety of plants and animal in their habitats, including microhabitats. Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain. Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Describe the basic needs of animals for survival (water, food and air). <p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking measurements (e.g. height, length, circumference) <p>Other skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening to and following instructions Looking carefully/observational skills Using equipment accurately Working independently 	<p>All children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use their senses to explore the natural world to help them understand which part of the body is associated with each sense. Use simple equipment to safely search for invertebrates in our woods and ponds. Start to learn how to identify the animals that they find using simple keys. Start to identify and name a variety of trees <p>Most children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin to sort and group the living things that they have discovered Describe what they have discovered and begin to use scientific language (invertebrates, amphibians etc.) Discuss what they have found out and how they found it out <p>Some children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start to understand the inter-relationship between living things in the habitats they have explored Understand the importance of looking after habitats, and what they can do themselves to care for them

Assessment for Learning

We continually assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as questioning, games, observations, and discussing our findings

Ideas for Extending Learning Before / After the Visit

- Go for a walk round the school ground or local area. How many different trees can you spot and what leaf shapes do they have? Perhaps collect some leaves and make a colourful collage back at school.
- Here is a link to some great FREE tree ID sheets for young children from the [Woodland Trust](#) Use your tree ID sheets in the school grounds or local area to see what trees you can identify.
- Conduct some additional investigation into the invertebrates and amphibians you found on our visit. What can you find out about a frog, dragonfly or beetle life cycle?

Partnerships: The Moorland Discovery Centre on the Longshaw Estate is run in partnership with the National Trust. As such visits may be delivered by staff from the Peak District National Park or the National Trust.