Session details

Developed for upper Key Stage 2 Capacity: Up to 40 pupils per day

Timings: 10am - 2pm

Cost: £10 per child; minimum £250 per session.

Timetable

10:00 Arrive at Earth Trust Centre and settle in

10:30 Intro and Biodiversity Challenge

12:00 Lunch @ Earth Lab

12:45 Group analysis and Plenary @ Earth Lab

14:00 Collect bags and depart

Your visit

The diversity of living things that call Earth home is staggering. Earth's plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms form a super connected planetary system that make Earth uniquely special in the known universe. Nothing deserves more love, respect and attention than the Biodiversity that sustains our planet, providing our life support system.

Throughout this 'Brilliant Biodiversity' day, your young people will work scientifically on a 'Biodiversity Challenge' to survey species, habitats and species interactions in a forest ecosystem. They will make predictions - observe, identify and classify - problem solve and think critically - before working as a class to formulate their conclusions and discuss what they have discovered. They will leave eager to learn more, and motivated and empowered to protect their local biodiversity.

Learning Objectives

Immersing themselves in our unique outdoor classroom, pupils will:

- Define biodiversity and understand how it provides our life support system on Earth.
- Explore a local woodland ecosystem, learning about species interactions including predator-prey-parasite dynamics, symbiosis and competition.
- Work scientifically by predicting, observing, problem solving and thinking critically.
- Work scientifically to use the woodland as a case study to show how one change can create a series of effects within an ecosystem.

About Earth Trust

Championing access and engagement with natural green spaces for everyone www.earthtrust.org.uk

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National Curriculum links

The activities in this session have been developed to link with the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum in science, mathematics, geography. Our cross curricular teaching style also brings in art and literature.

Science

Working scientifically

- Observing closely using simple equipment; identifying and classifying; gathering and recording data.
- Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate.
- Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.

Living things and their habitats & Evolution and Inheritance

- Adaptations, food chains and life cycles.
- Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.
- Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.
- Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

Mathematics

• Multiply and divide numbers mentally drawing upon known facts.

Geography

• Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

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