



# EXPLORING OUR ENVIRONMENT

KS 1 SCIENCE

<b>Learning Objectives During this Day Course pupils should learn:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü That there are different kinds of plants and animals in different places in the environment.</li> <li>ü To make predictions about the plants and animals which might be found in different places.</li> <li>ü To use a variety of techniques to find, record and identify animals and plants in their environment.</li> <li>ü To observe carefully plants and animals found.</li> <li>ü To treat animals and plants in the environment with care and sensitivity.</li> </ul>
<b>Pupils will also:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ü Learn safely in a new environment;</li> <li>ü Gain an appreciation of the environment and understand their role in caring for it.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Adult : Pupil ratios</b> For this course CEES' recommended ratio for safety is <b>1 : 6</b> Additional adults may be needed with classes where individual pupils need 1 : 1 support</p>
---

<p><b>Other information</b> Please see separate guidance notes on safe and effective day courses, including information on clothing and equipment.</p>
--

<p><b>Day Course Programme</b> Where 2 classes are attending the course the introductory session will be common to both. Classes will then separate and sessions A and B will be interchangeable am and pm.</p>
<p><b>Introduction:</b> On arrival a member of CEES staff will welcome your group to the Centre and describe the day's programme and the learning objectives.</p>
<p><b>Session A:</b> This session will be based on a walk to Stibbington Centre's nature reserve where a variety of practical, investigative and sensory activities may be undertaken to explore the plants and animals of various habitats, including: pond dipping; hunting for minibeasts in hedgerow and grassland habitats; a sensory walk and a scavenger hunt.</p>
<p><b>Session B:</b> This will be a workshop session based around the Centre and its grounds, with a variety of practical cross-curricular activities related to recording from the environment, including close observational drawing of live pond creatures and of the Centre's larger than average 'pet' minibeasts. In the grounds activities will include an unnatural trail, mosaic making and building homes for wildlife.</p>
<p><b>Plenary:</b> The group will reflect on their day and consider how well the learning objectives have been met.</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> The actual programme may vary depending on number and needs of pupils, length of visit and weather conditions.</p>

<p><b>Relevant extracts from CEES risk assessments</b> See also separate guidance notes on safe and effective day courses.</p>	
Hazard	Control measures
Village roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CEES leader walks ahead of pupils with one adult at the rear and other adults walking with their group.</li> <li>• When walking and working in small groups, pupils are instructed to stay close to their supervisory adult.</li> <li>• Pupils are instructed to walk in single file or not more than two abreast and to walk on a footpath if possible, otherwise on the safer side of road, normally the right to face oncoming traffic.</li> </ul>
Uneven ground, low branches on trees, steep slopes, steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils and adults are made aware of expected standards of behaviour and, for example pupils are instructed to walk, not run, to look ahead, and to stay close to their supervisory adult.</li> </ul>
Unfamiliar countryside surroundings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults supervise directly, for example, walking beside the group and regularly checking that all are present.</li> <li>• Pupils are made aware of safe standards of behaviour.</li> </ul>
Walking and working beside water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils are given clear verbal instructions on safety beside water and the safe use of equipment.</li> <li>• Pond dipping is carried out from specially built platforms.</li> <li>• CEES staff carry a lifeline in addition to standard safety equipment.</li> <li>• Practical work is carried out only where there is no water pollution.</li> <li>• Pupils with cuts, abrasions or skin allergies are given protective gloves.</li> <li>• Pupils are instructed to wash hands thoroughly after the activity and before eating.</li> </ul>
Soil, plants and animals brought into or kept in classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil samples are taken only from known clean sites.</li> <li>• Pupils with open cuts abrasions or skin allergies are given protective gloves or plasters.</li> <li>• Instruction is given in the safe handling and observation of animals.</li> <li>• Adults closely supervise activities.</li> <li>• Pupils are instructed to wash hands after the activity.</li> </ul>