

Planning: Pond Dipping

Year Group: FS 1/2

Activity	Learning Objectives	Main Teaching Activity	Differentiation	Key Vocabulary and Resources
<p>Pond Dipping</p> <p>Activity suitable during Spring and Summer Terms.</p> <p>Approximate time taken – 30 minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To understand that there are different types of habitats and name habitats. To show an understanding of how to carefully collect minibeasts and show care and respect for living things. To identify similarities and differences. To observe and identify minibeasts with the use of a magnifying glass. To know that minibeasts are small animals called invertebrates (no backbone). To sort and group minibeasts into categories. <p style="text-align: center;">Learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children can identify pond life using an identification card. Children can sort pond life into categories. Children can describe minibeasts they have collected. Children can compare findings with others. Children foster attitudes of caring and protection and develop a positive attitude towards conservation. 	<p>Talk to children about keeping safe around the pond and different types of minibeast habitats. Divide children into groups. The group will have large trays containing pond water and smaller trays with spoons and magnifying glasses.</p> <p>Each child has a net and dips in the pond to find pond life. Plants and animals that the children catch are put carefully into the large trays. When children have done three dips, nets are put back and large trays carried to table and put next to smaller trays. Minibeasts that have been caught are carefully transferred into the smaller trays by the children using the spoons.</p> <p>Children can use identification cards and magnifying glasses to find out about the minibeasts and to have a closer look observing differences and similarities. Findings may be recorded.</p> <p>Remind children to care for the environment by respecting the creatures and plants in the pond – when they're transferring creatures to be gentle.</p>	<p>For this activity you may wish to have children working in partners or small mixed ability groups. Higher ability: identify differences and similarities. Group and categorise – record findings. Lower ability: children could have a go at grouping living things according to observable similarities and differences.</p>	<p>Vocabulary: Habitat Similarity Difference Identify</p> <p>Resources: Magnifying glasses Spoons Trays Identification Cards Recording Sheets Magnifying Pots</p>