

# TEACHER NOTES

## Science: Biology

### Living Things & their Habitats

## Contextual Summary

This resource links to the National Curriculum for Science, (*recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways; classification*). This on-site science activity enables students to work scientifically in observing and grouping living things (organisms) at Robin Hill Country Park.

This resource engages students with specific elements of their visit, linking their learning to the curriculum; they will gain knowledge from their general engagement with the natural environment at Robin Hill and practise their scientific skills, identifying types of living organism

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This is an on-site activity. It would be useful if students had had previous discussions about classification. It would also be helpful

preparation for students to know how different characteristics of animals can be used to help classify them, before their visit to Robin Hill Country Park.

Students will identify living things within their habitat at the Robin Hill Country Park, and will use specific characteristics to sort those they see or encounter into their appropriate group.

This resource is designed to enhance the visit experience and to engage students with the Robin Hill environment and the rich and diverse habitat there.

## Ability Levels

This resource is suitable for students in lower key stage 2.

There are 2 variants of the resource: one resource for lower ability students and one resource for higher ability students. Teachers could adapt the content for students' needs by simplifying instructions where appropriate, or adding more complex tasks.

### Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Working scientifically
- ▶ Using scientific terminology to describe observations
- ▶ Using scientific keys to begin to classify animals
- ▶ Raising and answering questions based on their observations.

## Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills are required to be taught and practised as per the National Curriculum, for key stage 2 Science, and the Curriculum for Excellence.



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ROBIN HILL  
COUNTRY PARK

### SUBJECT

Science: Biology

### UNIT

Living Thing & their Habitats

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✗ Pre-Visit
- ✓ On-Site Activity
- ✗ Post-Visit



### CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Curriculum for Excellence

Applies to Resources numbered:

1 0 5 0 7 1  
1 0 5 0 7 2

## Learning Opportunities

### Pre-Visit

- ▶ Children need to make critical observations of features in the animal kingdom. They will also learn that living things can be classified in different ways. Characteristics of vertebrates can be discussed in preparation of the visit.

### During the Visit

- ▶ Students complete the Science resource/s linked to this document: *Local Species Classification Challenge!*

Resource ID: **105071** (KS2U lower ability) **105072** (KS2U higher ability)

- ▶ Students work individually or in pairs or small groups.
- ▶ They will use scientific terms to describe their observations

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Some students will use keys as a way to begin to classify living organisms.

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## Enrichment Opportunities

- ▶ Students will have first-hand knowledge of the types of living organisms that can be found at Robin Hill and begin to see how their characteristics help to classify them.

## Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Students recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- ✓ Students name a variety of things that can be found in the local and wider environment.
- ✓ Students explore and use classification keys to help group a variety of living things.

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