

Pond Dipping EYFS

Session Overview and Learning Objectives

Session Summary

- This session is suitable for one class at a time of up to 30 children
- It lasts 50 minutes
- Required ratio – 1 adult: 6 children

An exciting way to introduce children to some of our native creatures. We will provide all the equipment needed such as pond nets, white trays, magnifying glasses, ID sheets, and a safety throw line.

Please note that equipment loss or breakages will have to be charged to the school at replacement cost. Please bring along protective gloves for children and adults with fresh cuts and eczema and take home with your rubbish.

***Top tip:** Depending on your group, in our experience, attention spans can be shorter with this age group at the pond. Plan some back-up activities, especially if it is very hot or very cold. We can offer a story or colouring activity.*

Session Outline

Time	Location	Activity
5 mins	Centre	Walk to Hollow Pond
10 mins	Pond	Introduction
30 mins	Pond	Pond dipping
5 mins	Centre	Pack up and wash hands

Learning Objectives

Learning Objective/Activity	Expected Learning Outcomes
Story in classroom (wet weather option) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce children to creatures that live in the pond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All will be able to name at least one creature that lives in the pond Some will understand that a tadpole turns into a frog A few will understand that this is called a life cycle
Pond dipping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstration and safety talk Use picture keys to identify and name creatures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All will observe life in a pond Some will understand the need to be careful when handling small creatures A Few will be able to recall the name of a creature they have found
Microscope video (back at school) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To show life in the pond in detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All will have seen the diversity of life in a pond Some will be able to name a creature they have found A few will be able to name a carnivore and a herbivore

EYFS Statutory Framework

There are seven areas of learning and development that must shape educational programmes in early years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected.

Three areas are particularly important for building a foundation for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.

These are the prime areas:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development

Providers must also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied. The specific areas are:

- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design