

# PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK LEARNING & DISCOVERY TEAM TEACHERS NOTES - HABITATS



<b>Age range:</b> Y3 – Y6	<b>Duration:</b> 10.00 – 14.30	<b>Available:</b> April to October
<b>Locations available:</b> Crowden, Macclesfield Forest, Moorland Discovery Centre.		

The Peak District National Park's special wildlife and habitats make this the perfect place for a habitat study. This is a day of discovery. Pupils will use scientific equipment to explore and compare 2-3 different habitats, identify and categorise the living things they find, and learn about amazing adaptations to survive and thrive in these habitats.

Activities provided as part of the day include:

- Exploring a variety of habitats (e.g. woodland, moorland, pond, or stream) and using fieldwork equipment to carefully capture and study a variety of invertebrates that live in each one
- Identifying and categorising animals using a variety of dichotomous and other simple keys
- Recording findings and comparing the range of invertebrates found in different habitats

Depending on location and/or season, you may:

- Identify and categorise animals in different ways, based on shared characteristics
- Identify and group plant species in the woodlands and or moorland habitat, and discover the diversity and special adaptations of plants.
- Learn about food chain game, and/or simple food webs
- Have time for personal investigation of the woodland/moorland habitat and its micro-habitats, to discover a range of evidence that many unseen animals live in these habitats

### **Important Notes for this Programme:**

**Seasonality:** Although we offer this programme from April to October, our recommendation is for May/June/July, as these are the months when the invertebrates we will find and study are most abundant and show the greatest diversity.

We strive to make our visits accessible to all. Days can be tailored to your group's needs. While many of our sites are accessible to people with limited mobility, we advise you to discuss your particular needs with us before booking.

### **Main Curriculum Links:**

<b>Science</b>	Working scientifically: e.g. observing closely, using simple equipment; Identifying and classifying. Living things and their habitats. Animals including humans
<b>Physical Education</b>	Outdoor activity

Key Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
<p><b>Y3 Animals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat</li> </ul> <p><b>Y4 Living things and their habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways</li> <li>• explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment</li> <li>• recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things</li> <li>• construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey</li> </ul> <p><b>Y5 Living things and their habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird</li> </ul> <p><b>Y6 Living things and their habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics</li> </ul> <p><b>Y6 Evolution and inheritance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution</li> </ul> <p><b>Other skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening to and following instructions</li> <li>• Looking carefully/observational skills</li> <li>• Using equipment carefully and accurately</li> <li>• Working independently and in groups</li> </ul>	<p><b>All</b> children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand which habitats are found in the chosen location of Peak District National Park, and their special wildlife</li> <li>• Use scientific terminology</li> <li>• Work scientifically; use field equipment in an appropriate manner; ask and answer scientific questions</li> <li>• Identify a variety of species from different habitats</li> <li>• Understand the importance of habitats to sustain wildlife</li> </ul> <p><b>Most</b> children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn about rare habitats and wildlife in the Peak District National Park (depending on location)</li> <li>• Identify and classify species from different habitats, and compare findings between habitats</li> <li>• Investigate and understand animal adaptations</li> </ul> <p><b>Some</b> children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Categorise different species based on shared physical features</li> <li>• Understand the link between habitat characteristics and species evolution</li> <li>• Understand the importance of looking after habitats, and what they can do themselves to care for them</li> </ul>

### Assessment for Learning

We continually assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as questioning, games, observations and comparing/checking results

### Ideas for Extending Learning Before / After the Visit

- Repeat your invertebrate study in different habitats within your school grounds and/or local green spaces. Compare your results with your findings from your school visit. Collate and tabulate your data and choose an appropriate method to graphically display your results (e.g. bar charts, pie charts)
- Download the app “[Seek](#)” (by iNaturalist) onto school tablets, and use this to conduct a biodiversity survey of the plants growing in your school grounds.

**Partnerships:** The Moorland Discovery Centre on the Longshaw Estate is run in partnership with the National Trust. As such visits may be delivered by staff from the Peak District National Park or the National Trust.