



# Discovering Nature

An Interactive Exploration in Habitats and Adaptations

At Flight Ecology we specialise in surveying and educating people about UK wildlife and habitats. We have 20 years' experience in Environmental Education and experiential learning and offers interactive and enjoyable sessions for children of a variety of ages, to learn about the fascinating world of nature.

We run fun and educational sessions that cover key National Curriculum concepts. We can come to you, be that at your school, at a local nature area, or even whilst you're on a field trip. Our sessions are bespoke and are designed to explore the topics that you need covering. Our sessions can be run for any age of student, as activities will be adapted to ensure they are pitched at the right level.

Choose from the following;

Habitats	Time Required*
Using games and interactive tasks, we will discuss what habitats are (including microhabitats), how you can identify them and what they provide for the animals and plants that live in them.	Approx. 45 mins
<i>Follow on Task:</i> If live animals have been brought in (as part of 'Meet the Critters'), we will look at how humans provide microhabitats for captive animals, in order to keep the animals happy and comfortable.	Approx. 20 mins
Adaptations	Time Required*
We will discuss how animals and plants have their place (niche) in nature and are adapted to survive and compete in their habitat. We will look at a range of examples, both from our surroundings and from the 'Natural Curiosities' that Flight Ecology will supply.  The children will attempt to work out why they look like they do and therefore how our examples are best adapted for their environment.	Approx. 45 mins
<i>Follow of Task:</i> The students will design their own creatures that are adapted to particular habitats.	Approx. 20 mins
Classification	Time Required*
We will discuss how we can use the shapes of animals and plants to group them together or split them up. The students will play a classification game, allowing them to group animals according to their characteristics.	Approx. 30 mins
<i>Follow on Task:</i> Depending on ability, the students will fill in a key or produce their own key based on the species they have look at.	Approx. 20 mins
Natural Curiosity Quiz	Time Required*
One of the most popular aspects of our visits; the students get the chance to examine and handle a range of objects from the natural world, and have to guess what they are. These include: bones and skulls, animal poo (always popular!), claws, shed skins and shells, and eggs.	Approx. 1 hr



We generally run this in groups, with extra points for any interesting facts they can come up with.	
Owl Pellet Dissection	Time Required*
A fascinating activity, we bring (pre-sterilised) owl pellets with us which the students can tease apart with tweezers and investigate what the owl has been eating. Not one for the squeamish, but an amazing insight into food webs and the diet of a top predator.	Approx. 45 mins
Meet the Critters	Time Required*
We will bring several live animals for the students to meet. This will include bats, millipedes, stick insects, locusts and aquatic invertebrates. If your school is in a location with little scope for a nature walk, this can be a great way for the students to meet some live animals.	Approx. 30 mins
Bat Walk (evenings only April-October)	Time Required*
Naturally, this is an activity that cannot be undertaken in the day. However, it is a thrilling exploration of the night time world of one our least understood groups of native animals. We will provide a short talk, including discussion on nocturnal behaviour and the adaptations required for it, followed by a night-time walk to look and listen for bats.  Flight Ecology will supply bat detectors so that the students can hear the sounds of the bats echolocation as they fly around the children's heads.	Approx. 1.5-2 hrs

