

## The Education Pack

The education pack is divided into five sections, each offering classroom and field based opportunities and designed to support you with learning outside the classroom activities. Please note that the sections are not designed to be followed progressively but that the education pack provides additional opportunities that support the survey topic and build skills involved in surveying. Worksheets in the pack can be photocopied and used with children and young people.

- 1. Preparing to go on expedition** The aim of this section is to encourage children to become aware of risks and hazards involved in fieldwork and consider how they can be managed. Children also consider how to prepare for expedition and in doing so develop organisational skills.
- 2. Discovering** In this section children are given the opportunity to develop their map and communication skills. They are encouraged to give directions and use coordinates.
- 3. Exploring** In this section children start to explore the natural environment through activities that develop observation and perception skills. Children are encouraged to develop their descriptive vocabulary and a framework for carrying out a scientific investigation is provided.
- 4. Conserving** In this section children are encouraged to reflect on their discoveries and findings and consider the threats facing wildflowers and bees. Children develop problem solving and communication skills. Two art and design project ideas are provided.
- 5. Sharing** In this section children are encouraged to share their increased understanding with others and feed back their results via our Bee Scene web page, helping to create a virtual meadow.

### Accessing land

The Bee Scene survey can take place in any open space for example your school grounds, local park, woodland or nature reserve or the wider countryside. The areas surveyed should contain wildflowers and should not be planted beds and borders in parks and gardens. We suggest that you use publicly accessible spaces for the survey. Remember if you are going to wander from paths you need to check that it is permitted to do so.

### Good practice and the environment

Whenever we visit a natural place we can have an impact. Try to promote good practice. For example the countryside code states that when visiting a natural place you should:

- 1. Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs**
- 2. Leave gates and property as you find them**
- 3. Protect plants and animals and take your litter home**
- 4. Keep dogs under control**
- 5. Consider other people**

More information about the countryside code can be found at [www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk](http://www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk). This website also provides education resources for children that you may wish to use.



## Health and Safety Information

When going outside there are a number of health and safety issues that should be considered. It is especially important to think about:

- 1. Managing the group** How are you going to manage the group and ensure no-one becomes separated from the group. Do you need extra teachers or helpers? Have you made sure the boundaries are clear and that children can be seen at all times?
- 2. Objects that could cause harm** If children are exploring the ground then they need to be aware of the dangers posed by litter, faeces or other hazardous items. Heavily littered areas should be avoided.
- 3. Eating and drinking** If children are outside it is always advisable that they wash their hands before eating and drinking. You may choose that children wear gloves when doing the survey.
- 4. Diseases** such as Weil's disease which is a disease spread by rat's urine. It is advisable that children tape up any open cuts or wounds to prevent infections.
- 5. Poisonous plants** Children should be made aware that some wild plants are poisonous, causing extremely harmful effects if ingested and rashes if touched. Children should be encouraged not to pick wild plants and on no account should they ingest any part of a wild plant. We recommend children are closely supervised at all times.
- 6. Bees** You should be aware of any allergies to bee stings and take action accordingly. Children should not go near bees or touch them.

You should always carry out a risk assessment before taking a group outside or off school premises. Individual school or local authority guidelines should be followed for this, and further guidance can be found on the Child Safety Education Coalition website at [www.csec.org.uk/children/index.asp](http://www.csec.org.uk/children/index.asp).

## Equipment and resources

For any outside expedition we would recommend the equipment shown in the list below.

EQUIPMENT	REASON	TICK
First Aid kit	So any first aid situation can be dealt with	
Knowledge of local hospital	In case of an emergency	
Extra fleece (warm clothing)	For any child who may become cold	
Extra waterproof	For any child who may have forgotten their waterproof	
Water bottle	For any child who may become dehydrated	
Flask of warm drink	For any child who may get cold / wet	
Torch	Useful if there is a delay and it gets dark	
Mobile phone	In case of emergency	
Change for telephone	In case of emergency and no mobile signal	
Knowledge of any existing medical conditions.	So you can ensure you have any items related to specific medical needs of children (e.g. glucose tablets / sugary drink for diabetics, asthma medication)	