Exploring plants in Epping Forest

Exploring plants in Epping Forest - **This is a half day activity, add a second half day activity to make your own programme for your day at Suntrap.** Click here for KS2 activities.
In the forest have fun finding out about the different parts and functions of plants and their lifecycle by undertaking a range of activities and games. This can be done during the different seasons as children will experience different stages of the life cycle of a plant, e.g. seed dispersal in autumn or germination in spring. They will also find out about the importance of trees in relation to the climate and ecological emergency.

Learning objectives

- to identify and name the different parts of plants and understand their function
- to observe similarities and differences between plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees
- to begin to understand the life cycle of plants including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal
- to describe the ways in which nutrients, water and air are transported within plants
- to explore the importance of trees in relation to the climate and ecological emergency

Some suggestions for visit preparation

1. Grow some simple plants in the classroom, e.g. cress or broad beans.
2. Undertake investigations into plant growth in different growing conditions, e.g. water and light.

Follow on suggestions

1. Research and observe plants that grow in other environments, e.g. desert, rainforest.
2. Make some models of seed which are dispersed in different ways e.g. paper helicopters, parachutes.

National curriculum links

Y3 Science
Plants

- identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers
- explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant
- investigate the way in which water is transported within plants
- explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

Click here to read our day visit risk assessment

Quality Badge awarded by Council for Learning Outside the Classroom