

# Pond Habitats - life cycles

**Pond habitats – life cycles** (April to October only) - 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.](#)

Children will collect animals from a pond within the Suntrap grounds. They will use magnifiers to observe, identify and group the animals that they found. They will compare life-cycle changes in a variety of living things including amphibians and insects. Threats to forest habitats and the potential impact on the animal species found will be considered in relation to the climate and ecological emergency.



## Learning objectives

- to use classification keys to group, identify and name living things from the pond habitat
- to name and understand the different stages of insect and amphibian lifecycles
- consider threats to forest habitats and the potential impact on the animal species found

## Some suggestions for visit preparation

1. Introduce important vocabulary, nymph, larva, pupa using familiar animals as examples, e.g. a butterfly.
2. Discuss the life cycle of a frog and consider differences in the animal at each stage, e.g. how they breathe, what they look like.

## Follow on suggestions

1. Compare the life cycles of mammals and birds with insects and amphibians.
2. Make a model of the life cycle of a newt or an insect that was seen in the pond.



## National curriculum links

### Y4 Science

#### Living things and their habitats

- recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways
- explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment

### Y5 Science

#### Living things and their habitats

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.



Click [here](#) to read our day visit risk assessment

**Bringing nature nearer**

