

Forest Stream Study

Forest stream study – half day or full day option, if choosing the half day option, add a second half day activity to make your own programme for your day at Suntrap. [Click here for KS2 activities.](#)

Explore the meanders on Hillwood stream and then using fieldwork equipment, collect measurements from different sections along a stream including height, depth, width and speed to draw up a cross-sectional diagram and label the different features on a meander. The full day option would include more thorough measurements and a walk to the source and confluence, linking the geology and geography of the land to the amount of water in the stream. A field sketch of a meander will also be drawn.



Learning objectives

- to understand how features on a meander are formed using geographical vocabulary; erosion, transportation and deposition
- to undertake fieldwork to measure a channel cross section and the speed of the water
- to record findings on a graph
- to recap the water cycle



Some suggestions for visit preparation

1. Use pictures and videos to reinforce any previous work on water, and identify and discuss with the children the components of the water cycle.
2. Introduce pupils to the following vocabulary: meander, river cliff, river beach, bed, bank.

Follow on suggestions

1. Calculate the mean depth and speed of the water and use the internet to find out how this compares to other rivers around the world. Use this information to answer a geographical question, e.g. why is the River Thames deeper than Hillwood stream?

National curriculum links

Geography

Locational knowledge

- name and locate geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time

Physical geography

Describe and understand key aspects of:

- rivers and the water cycle

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps and graphs

Mathematics

Y5 Number

- round decimals with 2 decimals to the nearest whole number and to 1 decimal place

Y5 Measurement

- convert between different units of metric measure (centimetre and metre)

Y5 Statistics

- complete, read and interpret information in tables
- interpret and construct line graphs
- calculate and interpret the mean as an average



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