



# North York Moors National Park

## Woodland discovery day (Key stage 2)

Create a full day of woodland themed activities for your class by choosing up to 3 of the activities listed below.

The activities are based at Danby Lodge National Park Centre using an area of mixed woodland within the centre grounds.

Children will learn about the woodland habitat and the wildlife that lives within it, identify tree's and work out their age. They could discover seeds and their mechanisms for dispersal or explore the world of camouflage and work as teams to make their own 'invisible' shelters. Artistic expression can be explored through designing their own sculpture or piece of natural art. All activities are practical and interactive with lots of opportunities for paired and team working.

**Age Range:** Years 3 to 6 (Age 7 to 11)

**Duration:** 10am to 2.30pm including lunch break (timing can be flexible)

**Location:** Danby Lodge National Park Centre

### Main curriculum links

#### Science

- animals and their habitats

#### Art and design

- using natural materials to create sculpture

### Activities and key learning objectives

Children should learn...

#### Woodland habitat

- the roles of leaves, roots, water, sunlight and air in plant growth;
- to use an identification key;
- about the variety of life in a woodland habitat

## **Camouflage and concealment**

- how animals are suited to their environment
- how colour is used by animals for camouflage and communication

## **Seeds and dispersal**

- that plants and trees produce different sorts of seeds and that they are dispersed in different ways
- to design and make a simple seed

## **Shelter building**

- to work together to discuss design and materials required for making a shelter
- to work together to make a shelter
- to tie a couple of simple knots

## **Faces in the woods**

- that art can be made out of natural materials
- that art can be ephemeral
- how to express themselves artistically

## **Learning outcomes**

### **Woodland habitat**

All children will be able to:

- name the things needed for plant growth;
- use an identification key

Most children will be able to:

- describe the roles of leaves, roots, water, sunlight and air in plant growth;
- describe how several animals are adapted to a woodland habitat

Some children will be able to:

- describe how different animals are adapted to living in different parts of a woodland habitat

### **Camouflage and concealment**

All children will be able to:

- name some woodland animals;
- describe what camouflage is

Most children will be able to:

- explain how colour is used to avoid being prey and to help stalk prey

Some children will be able to:

- explain how and why colour is used for concealment, as a warning and as mimicry

### **Seeds and dispersal**

All children will be able to:

- identify a seed and describe the mechanism for its dispersal;
- design and make a simple seed

Most children will be able to:

- identify several seeds and the plant from which they come;
- describe how different seeds are dispersed

Some children will be able to:

- explain why plants use different mechanisms of dispersal and what the benefits of each are

### **Shelter building**

All children will be able to:

- discuss ideas and vote on a framework to build;
- work as a team to construct shelters

Most children will be able to:

- evaluate the effectiveness of shelters;
- learn a simple knots

Some children will be able to:

- suggest ways of redesigning shelters to make them more effective

## **Faces in the woods**

All children will be able to:

- create a piece of art using natural materials

Most children will be able to:

- explore visual and tactile qualities of materials and match them to the purposes of the work

Some children will be able to:

- adapt their work and describe how they might develop it further

## **Assessment for learning**

We assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as: questioning, questioning games, observing how well children are performing tasks, checking results, quizzes and feedback forms.

## **Ideas for extending learning before and after these activities**

To find out more about woodland in the North York Moors go to [www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/wildlife-and-habitats/woodland](http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/wildlife-and-habitats/woodland)

The Woodland Trust and the Forestry England websites contain a wide range of resources for schools at [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)\* and [www.forestryengland.uk/learning](http://www.forestryengland.uk/learning)\*

\*This is an external website for which the National Park Authority has no responsibility.

## **Further information**

To find out more, make a booking or view other activities please visit our [Outdoor learning and school visits page](#).

You can contact the Outdoor Learning team on 01439 772751 or email [outdoorlearning@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:outdoorlearning@northyorkmoors.org.uk)