

Session Outline

KS3 & 4: Tracks and Traps

This outline is a general guide for what to expect during your session with us. Activities and session structure may vary depending on weather conditions and other circumstances.

National Curriculum links:		
<p>KS3 - The variation between species and between individuals of the same species means some organisms compete more successfully, which can drive natural selection. Changes in the environment may leave individuals within a species, and some entire species, less well adapted to compete successfully and reproduce, which in turn may lead to extinction.</p> <p>KS4- The characteristics of a living organism are influenced by its genome and its interaction with the environment. The importance of biodiversity and how organisms are interdependent and are adapted to their environment.</p>		
Learning Objectives	Session outline	Evaluation of Learners progress
<p>Be able to explain the variation between species in their tracks, nest, droppings etc.</p> <p>Explain the importance of biodiversity</p>	<p>Activities Introduction to The Parks Trust Introduction to the session and how to use the equipment, health and safety.</p> <p>Tracking walk Activities during this guided walk students can include (depending on group size, time of year, weather etc) -Set up small mammal traps (boxes for studying animals) and/or check those already left out - Moth surveying using the previous nights catch from a moth trap -Guided walk looking for evidence of wildlife presence. E.g. droppings, footprints, nests, trails, furs, feathers, nibbled nuts, etc and discussing who these may belong to and how we can work this out.</p> <p>Lab work Dissect an owl pellet and/or otter spraint (depending on availability) and use microscopes to identify the contents and consider what this tells us about the animal and its interaction with the environment.</p> <p>Study different skeletons, skulls and taxidermy animals to discuss variation between species and adaptation through natural selection.</p>	<p>To include: Discussion with students before, during and after the visit. Completion of tasks, photographs which you may take for post visit discussions, displays and activities.</p>
Pre Visit activities	Post Visit activities	
<p>Explore examples of adaption and evolution Consider native UK species you might find at a natures reserve and their key features.</p>	<p>Explore examples of adaption and evolution of non-native species Create your own animals – think about what features it would have eg. What would its tracks look like, how has it adapted to its environment etc. Sharing knowledge gained with rest of school e.g display Build a food web.</p>	