

Animals with or without bones – half day option (indoor activity)

In the classroom children will investigate vertebrates and invertebrates. Using our bone collection, they will decide what animal the skeleton is from. They will then discover where they are found in the body and their function. Invertebrates will be investigated, looking at exoskeletons and discussing their function (e.g. protection).

Children will have the opportunity to handle our animals and look at how they move, e.g. corn snake, rabbit, salamander and hissing cockroach.

Learning objectives

- to identify that vertebrates have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement
- to identify that invertebrates have exoskeletons for support, protection and movement
- to treat animals and the environment with care and sensitivity



Some suggestions for visit preparation

- Introduce important vocabulary such as invertebrate, vertebrate and exoskeleton.
- Look at the human skeleton and name some bones in their body

Follow on suggestions

- Make a model skeleton
- In school grounds or a local park, look under logs for animals with exoskeletons

National curriculum links

Y3 Science

Animals including humans

- identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement



EVENT SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

Visit details: Animal with or without bones

Carried out by: Suntrap Centre

Date: Dec 2017

Issue	How to manage it
Understanding/behaviour	Class teacher to advise Suntrap staff of any children who may need extra support out in the classroom or out in the forest to help them to follow instructions. School to ensure that there is appropriate adult: children ratios as required.
Medical conditions	Suntrap staff to check that school staff brings medication out into the forest. All adults to be made aware of any medical conditions. Suntrap staff will carry a first aid kit.
Soil borne disease	Children instructed not to put fingers in mouth during/after activities which include handling plants, soil and sticks. Hands should be washed with warm soapy water before eating lunch/snack.
Allergies/animal borne diseases.	Suntrap staff to be made aware of any allergies i.e. feathers/fur prior to handling. Hands should be washed with warm soapy water before eating any food.
Injury from animals	Children should be supervised at all times when handling animals.