

## Exploring plants in Epping Forest (Y3)

### Exploring plants in Epping Forest - half day option

In the forest have fun finding out about the different parts and functions of plants and their lifecycle by undertaking a range of activities and games. This can be done during the different seasons as children will experience different stages of the life cycle of a plant, e.g. seed dispersal in autumn or germination in spring.

### Learning objectives

- to identify and name the different parts of plants and understand their function
- to observe similarities and differences between plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees
- to begin to understand the life cycle of plants including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal
- to describe the ways in which nutrients, water and air are transported within plants



### Some suggestions for visit preparation

1. Grow some simple plants in the classroom, e.g. cress or broad beans.
2. Undertake investigations into plant growth in different growing conditions, e.g. water and light.

### Follow on suggestions

1. Research and observe plants that grow in other environments, e.g. desert, rainforest.
2. Make some models of seed which are dispersed in different ways e.g. paper helicopters, parachutes.

### National curriculum links

#### Y3 Science

#### Plants

- identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers
- explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant
- investigate the way in which water is transported within plants
- explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.



## EVENT SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

Visit details: Exploring plants in Epping Forest

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 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.
Getting lost	Keep within sight of teacher/adult & observe boundaries as directed by the staff.
Choking/Poisoning	No eating outside unless directly instructed by Suntrap staff.
Falling branches	During extreme weather conditions Suntrap staff will make an assessment to ensure it is safe to enter the forest.
Injury from horses/dogs or bikes	Group to be instructed to stand to the side, be quiet and still when horses, dogs or bikes are near.
Accident when crossing the road	Group to be instructed on follow safe procedures for crossing roads ( <b>Suntrap Line</b> ). No one to walk across the cattle grid.
Injury through falling & throwing	Climbing of trees and throwing sticks/stones prohibited.
Getting wet/cold	Clothing should be appropriate for weather conditions. i.e hat, coat and gloves. Wellies should be worn when walking through stream.
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.