

Human impact in Epping Forest (Y4)

Human impact in Epping Forest – half day option

Children will compare a map of the forest from 1777 with one from today to look at how London has encroached onto forest land. In the forest they will carry out a survey to look at both the positive and negative effects humans have on the different habitats within the forest. Through a series of games and activities pupils will learn about how plants help to capture carbon from the atmosphere.

This activity is best done in combination with “Woodland classification & food chains” activity.

Learning objectives

- to explore examples of human impact (both positive and negative) on the habitats within Epping Forest
- to recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.
- to understand their role in helping look after the forest

Some suggestions for visit preparation

1. Ensure understanding of climate change and how carbon is released into the atmosphere.

Follow on suggestions

1. Create a guide explaining how to help to protect the forest.
2. Look at how humans affect other forests around the world e.g. rainforests



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

Y4 Science

Living things and their habitats

- recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things



EVENT SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

Visit details: Human impact on 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 (Suntrap Line). No one to walk across the cattle grid.
Injury through falling & throwing	Climbing of trees and throwing sticks/stones prohibited.
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.