

Guided tours

Where do different plants and animals live? Lead a guided habitat tour and decide what you could do to help improve the area.



You will learn

To value the outdoors

Enjoy being outside, feel comfortable in nature, and feel connected to the natural environment.

You will need:

plant and animal ID cards (optional)

Before you begin

- Decide where you'd like to walk as a group. How about woodlands, urban paths, or wetlands?
- Check the area that you're going to visit is suitable for the activity. Is it accessible for everyone?
- Make sure that everyone arrives wearing clothes that are suitable for the terrain and the weather. This includes shoes — walking boots, wellies, or sturdy trainers are best.
- Decide whether you'll use sheets to help you identify plants and animals. You could download sheets to help you identify trees as well as flying insects and creepy crawly spotter sheets — or you could make your own. Make sure you print enough (one between two is ideal) and take plenty of pencils too.
- Decide whether you'll use an app like the Woodland Trust Tree ID app.
 www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/tree-id-app/
- Think about any other equipment you'll need. For example, if you're meeting in the evening, torches might be useful.









Take a tour

- 1 Everyone should get into pairs or small groups. Each group should choose a small area of natural habitat to explore. You may want to support groups to choose interesting areas. Try to make sure that different groups explore different places.
- The person leading the activity should make sure each group has access to any resources they'll need to identify things (such as ID cards or apps).
- 3 Everyone should find at least three plants, three invertebrates, and three birds in their group's area.
- When they spot a creature or plant, everyone should look for anything threatening their little patch of habitat. Could anything be done to improve it?
- Everyone should give the rest of their group a short, guided tour. They should show them what lives there, explain what's threatening the plant or animal, and share some ideas of things that could be done to improve the habitat.

| Reflection | |
|------------|--|
| Time | Activity |
| 5 minutes | What sorts of things pose the biggest threat to natural habitats? |
| | Why is it important that people share knowledge and understanding with others? |

Change the level of challenge

Groups could focus on just plants, invertebrates or birds instead of all three to make things simpler.

Why not create a piece of artwork or presentation showing what you've found?

You could create a project that your group can work on over a few weeks to help improve the area or share your knowledge with others.