

Session title	Pond Detectives	
Key question	What lives in a pond?	
Session description	With a purpose-built raised pond teeming with life, WWT Arundel is one of the very best places in the country to come pond dipping. Sessions can be adapted to suit your needs, with a focus on one or more of the following: ▪ Identifying common pond animals. ▪ Food chains (to include the terms carnivore, herbivore and omnivore). ▪ Habitats.	
Key Stage suitability	EYFS	
Duration	30 minutes (a 1-hour version is available, which allows for a longer dipping and observation time)	

Curriculum links	EYFS: Understanding the world 3- and 4-year-olds will be learning to... ▪ Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. ▪ Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. ▪ Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Children in reception will be learning to... ▪ Explore the natural world around them. ▪ Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside. ▪ Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live.	
Learning outcomes	Most learners will...	More able learners will...
	▪ Be able to use pond dipping equipment safely and effectively with minimal disturbance to the habitat. ▪ Understand that a freshwater pond is a home to lots of different creatures. ▪ Be able to recognise an animal that lives in a pond.	▪ Be able to recall the name and one movement of at least one pond animal. ▪ Be able to describe the similarities and differences between pond animals. ▪ Be able to think about some of the animals we might find living in a pond habitat.
Key vocabulary	Pond Freshwater Wiggling	Slithering Swimming Crawling Breathing Shell or Case Insect

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	1 min
We welcome learners to the raised pond and introduce the key question.	
Activity 1: Health and safety briefing	5 mins
Learners are shown how to use the pond dipping activity equipment, including important health and safety considerations.	
Activity 2: Pond dipping	13 mins
Learners dip in the pond and put the creatures into a tray of water.	

Activity 3: Choosing an animal to re-enact	5 mins
Learners observe their animals and come up with an action for their movement.	
Plenary	6 mins
Learners share animal names and actions using images of creatures and the actions they have come up with. They consider, as a group, how important ponds are and how we can help look after them.	