

Session title	Pond Detectives	
Key question	Various Available (see session description below)	
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: ▪ How can we group and classify pond animals? ▪ How are pond animals adapted to their habitat? ▪ How is energy passed down a pond food chain? ▪ How can we describe the life cycles of pond animals?	
Key Stage suitability	KS2	
Duration	1 hour (30-minute session available with shorter dipping and observation time)	

Curriculum links	KS2 Science: Living things and their habitats and Evolution and Inheritance Lower KS2 will be learning to... ▪ recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways ▪ explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment ▪ recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things Upper KS2 will be learning to... ▪ describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals ▪ identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.																
Learning outcomes	Most learners will...	More able learners will...															
	▪ Be able to use pond dipping equipment safely and effectively to catch animals with minimal disturbance to the habitat. ▪ Understand that a freshwater pond is a home to lots of different animals. ▪ Be able to recognise and name an animal that lives in a pond habitat.	▪ Be able to recall the name and adaptation 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	<table> <tr> <td>Wetland</td><td>Herbivore</td><td>Adaptation</td></tr> <tr> <td>Freshwater</td><td>Carnivore</td><td>Evolution</td></tr> <tr> <td>Habitat</td><td>Omnivore</td><td>Camouflage</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pond</td><td>Classification</td><td>Nymph/Larvae</td></tr> <tr> <td>Exoskeleton</td><td>Insect</td><td></td></tr> </table>		Wetland	Herbivore	Adaptation	Freshwater	Carnivore	Evolution	Habitat	Omnivore	Camouflage	Pond	Classification	Nymph/Larvae	Exoskeleton	Insect	
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Session Outline	Time
Introduction	2 mins
We welcome learners to the raised pond and introduce their chosen focus. They are asked to predict what creatures they might find.	
Activity 1: Explain Equipment and technique + Health and safety briefing	8 mins

We demonstrate how to use the pond dipping equipment, including important health and safety considerations.	
Activity 2: Pond dipping and identification	25 mins
Learners dip in the pond and identify the creatures they have found.	
Activity 3: Observation	15 mins
Learners closely observe one of their creatures and consider the key question for that creature.	
Plenary	10 mins
Learners share the animals' name and their observation with the rest of the class. They consider the importance of ponds, discuss threats to ponds, and consider how we can help.	