

Session title	Pond Explorers	
Key Q	What lives in a pond?	
Session description	With purpose-built raised ponds and specialist equipment, including electronic microscope and screen, WWT Castle Espie 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	KS1	
Duration	30 minutes	

Curriculum links	KS1: The World Around Us Independence: ▪ How plants and animals rely on each other within the natural world ▪ The effect of people on the natural environment over time ▪ Interdependence of people, plants, animals and place. Place: ▪ How place influences plant and animal life ▪ Ways in which living things depend on and adapt to their environment Change over time: ▪ Ways in which change occurs in the natural world	
Learning outcomes	Most learners	More able learners
	Will be able to name at least two species of animal that live in a freshwater pond. Will be able to use pond dipping equipment safely and effectively.	Will be able to describe the movements and shape of at least one pond animal.
Key vocabulary	Ecosystem Habitat Wetland Biodiversity Aquatic species Eutrophic	

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Learners are introduced pond dipping and suggest what they might catch.	
Activity 2: Pond dipping	10 mins
Learners dip into ponds using the equipment provided.	
Activity 3: Identification of catch.	10 mins
Pupils, with adult support, use the ID booklets to identify at least three species.	
Plenary	5 mins
Guide asks the groups for some feedback on what they have caught.	