

Session title	Bird Adaptations	
Key question	How are wetland birds adapted to their habitat?	
Session description	Observe a wide range of birds to discover how they have evolved specific features to suit a wetland environment. What are the main similarities and differences between species and how has each evolved to fill a particular ecological 'niche'?	
Key Stage suitability	KS3	
Duration	1 or 2 hours	

Curriculum links	Curriculum for Wales Science and Technology Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena Progression step 4 - I can explain how the impact of our actions contribute to the changes in the environment and biodiversity. The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival Progression step 4 - I can describe the interdependence of organisms in ecosystems and explain how this affects their chances of survival. - I can explain how reproduction, mutations and the environment can lead to variation and adaptations within organisms which can affect their chances of survival. - I can explain the threats to the development and health of organisms and describe how the effects of these are reduced by natural defences, preventions and treatments. Progression step 5 - I can evaluate the factors which affect the development and health of organisms.	
Learning outcomes	Most learners	More able learners
	will be able to describe how birds behave to help them to survive in wetlands. will be able to describe the differences between how different types of birds find food. will be able to name at least three physical adaptations that help wetland birds to survive. will be able to identify one species of wild British birds	will be able to identify up to three species of wild British birds.
Key vocabulary	Survive Healthy Behaviour Migration Nest Habitat Pecking Filter-feeding Food chain Predator Prey Preening Webbed feet Waterproof	

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Learners are introduced to the centre, staff and volunteers running the session and the key question, explaining what we will be focusing on today.	
Activity 1: How are wetland birds adapted to their habitat?	10 mins
Discussion Stage – Learners offer suggestions of how birds have adapted to living in a wetland.	
Activity 2: Exploration	10 mins
Learners explore the different body parts, observing the adaptations.	<i>This section is extended during a 2-hour session</i>
Activity 3: Collection Walk	20 mins
Learners observe the feeding habits and the behaviours of our collection birds, comparing the adaptations between species.	<i>This section is extended during a 2-hour session</i>
Activity 4: Observatory	10 mins
Learners visit our observatory hide to observe a wetland habitat.	<i>This section is extended during a 2-hour session</i>
Plenary	5 mins
Learners review what they have learnt and ask any further questions.	