


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	<p>Curriculum for Wales</p> <p>Science and Technology</p> <p>Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progression step 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I can explain how the impact of our actions contribute to the changes in the environment and biodiversity. <p>The world around us is full of living things which depend on each other for survival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progression step 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I can evaluate the factors which affect the development and health of organisms. 	
Learning outcomes	All learners	More able learners
	<p><u>All learners</u> will be able to describe how birds behave to help them to survive in wetlands.</p> <p><u>All learners</u> will be able to describe the differences between how different types of birds find food.</p> <p><u>All learners</u> will be able to name at least three physical adaptations that help wetland birds to survive.</p> <p><u>All Learners</u> will be able to identify one species of wild British birds</p>	<p><u>A few learners</u> will be able to identify up to three species of wild British birds.</p>
Key vocabulary	<p>Survive</p> <p>Healthy</p> <p>Behaviour</p> <p>Migration</p> <p>Nest</p> <p>Habitat</p> <p>Pecking</p>	<p>Filter-feeding</p> <p>Food chain</p> <p>Predator</p> <p>Prey</p> <p>Preening</p> <p>Webbed feet</p> <p>Waterproof</p>

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.	
Section 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.	
Section 2: Exploration	10 mins
Learners explore the different body parts, observing the adaptations.	<i>This section can be extended during a 2 hour session</i>
Section 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 can be extended during a 2 hour session</i>
Section 4: Observatory	10 mins
Learners visit our observatory hide to observe a wetland habitat.	<i>This section can be extended during a 2 hour session</i>
Plenary	5 mins
Learners will review what they have learnt and ask any further questions.	