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| Session title         | Pond Explorers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| Key Q                 | What lives in a pond?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                     |
| Session description   | <p>With purpose-built raised ponds and specialist equipment, including electronic microscopes and screens, WWT London 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identifying common pond animals.</li> <li>▪ Food chains (to include the terms carnivore, herbivore and omnivore).</li> <li>▪ Habitats.</li> </ul> |                                                                                     |
| Key Stage suitability | EYFS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                     |
| Duration              | 30 minutes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                     |

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| Curriculum links  | <p>EYFS: Understanding the world</p> <p>3 and 4 year olds will be learning to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.</li> <li>▪ Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.</li> <li>▪ Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.</li> </ul> <p>Children in reception will be learning to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explore the natural world around them.</li> <li>▪ Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.</li> <li>▪ Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                    |
| Learning outcomes | All learners                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | More able learners                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                    |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will be able to use pond dipping equipment safely and effectively to catch animals with minimal disturbance to the habitat.</li> <li>▪ Will understand that a freshwater pond is home to lots of different animals.</li> <li>▪ Will be able to recognise an animal that lives in a pond habitat.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will be able to recall the name and movement of at least one pond animal.</li> <li>▪ Will be able to describe the similarities and differences between pond animals.</li> <li>▪ Will be able to think about some of the animals we might find living in a pond habitat.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                    |
| Key vocabulary    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ponds</li> <li>▪ Freshwater</li> <li>▪ Pond dipping</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hopping</li> <li>▪ Swimming</li> <li>▪ Crawling</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Slithering</li> <li>▪ Wiggling</li> <li>▪ Fins</li> </ul> |

| Session Outline                                                                                                                 | Time   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Introduction                                                                                                                    | 2 mins |
| A quick introduction to the session and what will be covered, explaining that we will be looking at animals living in the pond. |        |
| Section 1: Demonstration                                                                                                        | 5 mins |
| Explanation and demonstration of pond dipping activity, including important health and safety considerations.                   |        |

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| Section 2: Pond dipping                                                                                                                                             | 13 mins |
| Pond dipping activity.                                                                                                                                              |         |
| Section 3: Choosing an animal to re-enact                                                                                                                           | 5 mins  |
| Learners will observe their animals and come up with an action for their movement.                                                                                  |         |
| Plenary                                                                                                                                                             | 5 mins  |
| Learners will share animal names and actions using images of creatures and the actions they have come up with. Test recall through Old MacDonald song with actions. |         |