

Session title	Plant Detectives	
Key Q	Which plants live in the wetland?	
Session description	Explore wetland habitats to identify a variety of plants and the things they need to survive. Investigate the function of their different parts and discover how some of these are specifically adapted to a wetland environment.	
Key Stage suitability	KS2	
Duration	1 hour	

Curriculum links	KS2 Science Year 3 Plants - Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers - Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal Year 4 Living things and their habitats - 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 Year 5 Living things and their habitats - 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 - Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics Year 6 Evolution and Inheritance - 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	More able learners
	Will be able to recognise that leaves have different shapes and textures Will be able to talk about characteristics of a plant using descriptive language Will be able to contrast and compare different leaves	Will be able to memorise and recognise a plant species
Key vocabulary	Roots Stem Leaves Flower	Texture Smooth Rough Shape Bumpy Zig-zag Smelly

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Learners are introduced to the main parts of plants (roots, stem, leaves, flower) and discuss which might be most useful in identifying a plant.	
Activity 1: Grouping plants	15 mins
Learners group and classify leaves according to their appearance.	
Activity 2: Introduction to Leaf ID challenge	5 mins
Learners are introduced to their next activity.	
Activity 3: Leaf ID challenge	20 mins
Learners identify different plants by their leaf shapes and collect samples of each.	
Activity 4: Sharing	5 mins
Learners share their experiences finding and identifying different plants.	
Plenary	5 mins
Children play 'Guess who?' asking questions to identify which plant someone is thinking of. This gives them a chance to practise using the new vocabulary they've learned e.g. lobed. toothed etc.	