

Session title	Pond Explorers (available April – October)	
Key Q	What lives in a pond?	
Session description	With purpose-built raised ponds and specialist equipment, including electronic microscope and screen, WWT Slimbridge 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 ▪ Adaptations ▪ Food chains (to include the terms carnivore, herbivore and omnivore) ▪ Habitats	
Key Stage Suitability	KS1	
Duration	45 minutes – 1 hour	

Curriculum links	Year 1 Science (Animals including humans) ▪ Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Year 2 Science (Living things and their habitats, Animals including humans) ▪ Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. ▪ Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats. ▪ Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food. ▪ Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults ▪ Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).										
Learning outcomes	All learners will...	More able learners will...									
	▪ be able to identify an animal that lives in a pond. ▪ be able to use pond dipping equipment safely and effectively to catch pond creatures. ▪ understand that a freshwater pond is home to lots of different animals.	▪ be able to identify where their catch came from in the pond. ▪ be able to describe, using scientific vocabulary, how their catch is adapted to living in a pond.									
Key vocabulary	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Home/Habitat</td><td>Animals</td><td>Carnivore</td></tr> <tr> <td>Plants</td><td>Survival</td><td>Herbivore</td></tr> <tr> <td>Similar/Different</td><td>Adaptations</td><td>Omnivore</td></tr> </table>		Home/Habitat	Animals	Carnivore	Plants	Survival	Herbivore	Similar/Different	Adaptations	Omnivore
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Session Outline	Time
Introduction	3 mins
Learners are introduced to the key question – What lives in a pond?	
Activity 1: What do pond creatures need for survival?	5 mins
In pairs, learners think about what adaptations or skills pond creatures need for survival in a pond habitat then share with WWT staff and the class/group.	
Activity 2: Introduction to pond creatures	4 mins
Learners are introduced to different creatures and where they can be found within the pond habitat using a magnetic pond cross section.	
Activity 3: Where to and how to pond dip, health and safety	2 mins
Learners are given hints and tips on where and how to pond dip plus how to do it safely.	
Activity 4: Pond dipping	20 mins
Learners investigate the pond habitat by dipping with their nets then identify the creatures they catch using WWT id guides.	
Activity 5: Microscope and discussion session	5 mins
Learners observe and comment on creatures as viewed close up using a microscope and screen.	
Plenary	5 mins
Learners vote for their 'catch of the day' and reflect on the key question.	