

Session title	Wetland Wonders	
Key Q	How can we use our senses to explore wetland wildlife?	
Session description	Explore wetland habitats and microhabitats using your senses. Identify, name, and group the plants and animals you find. How do they compare to one another and what do they all need to survive in a wetland?	
Key Stage Suitability	KS1	
Duration	1 hour	

Curriculum links	KS1 Science Year 1: Plants - Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. Year 1: Animals including humans - Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Year 2: Living things and their habitats - 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. KS1 Geography - Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features, including: beach, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather.	
Learning outcomes	Most learners will...	More able learners will...
	- be able to use basic geographical vocab to name wetland habitats. - observe and identify animals & plants closely using simple equipment, keys and guides.	- be able to identify and name a variety of plants and animals in a wetland habitat. - be able to describe how the wetland habitat provides for the needs of an animal or plant.
Key vocabulary	Adaptations Similarities Differences	Wetland Senses Mammals
		Minibeasts Habitat or home Plants

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	3 mins
Learners are introduced to the wetlands and to the key question – How can we use our senses to explore wetland wildlife?	
Activity 1: Introduce wetlands as a habitat	3 mins
Learners identify and name different wetland habitats wildlife may live in.	
Activity 2: Mammal adaptations	8 mins

Learners observe and discuss any adaptations or skills Beavers and Otters may have for living in a wetland habitat. Any similarities and differences between the two mammals are highlighted.	
Activity 3: Listening and looking	25 mins
Learners use a variety of equipment and senses to investigate wetland plants, identify minibeasts and observe bird species.	
Activity 4: Visit a bird hide	10 mins
From our child-friendly Discovery Hide, learners will observe and identify birds on our nature reserve.	
Plenary	5 mins
Learners answer the key question and are encouraged to think about what else they might spot during their time at the centre.	