

In Darwin's footsteps...

Investigating plants at KS2



CEES at Stibbington Centre

If requested a "mix & match" programme of learning activities from different day courses may be selected.

To reduce travel costs it may be possible for 2 classes from the same school to follow 2 different courses on the same day.

At KS1 & 2, CEES Day Course themes at Stibbington Centre, Burwell House, Wisbech Castle and Vine House Farm include:

Science

Exploring the environment
Rocks & soils
Energy & renewables
Habitats & food chains
Plants & minibeasts
Crime Scene Investigation

Geography

Map skills & location
Weather & climate
Exploring a locality
Rivers & water

History

Romans Vikings
Victorians WWI
WWII Evacuation

Art & design

Eco Art & the environment

English & maths

... outdoors

Contact details for further information

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Day Course Information:

Curriculum focus - Science

Aims

- ✓ To identify different parts of flowering plants and their functions
- ✓ To learn how plants can be identified using ID keys
- ✓ To explore the part flowers play in the life cycle of plants and the requirements of plants for life and growth
- ✓ To understand that plants have adaptations which suit them to their environment and that environmental change can affect them
- ✓ To investigate how plant growth is affected by light levels

Programme *When there are two classes the welcome will be common to both. Classes then separate and sessions A and B are interchangeable before and after lunch. The programme may vary depending on the number and needs of pupils, length of visit and weather conditions.*

Welcome

On arrival a CEES teacher will welcome your group to the Centre and describe the day's programme. An introductory presentation will demonstrate the importance of plants.

Session A

- Explore the natural environment in the beautiful grounds of Stibbington Hall.
- Measure a tree's girth, canopy and height.
- Estimate the age of a tree and take a bark and leaf rubbing to complete a tree passport.
- Make a collection which emphasises variation and seasonal change.

Session B

- Discover what plants need for life and growth and why they are important to humans and other animals.
- Follow a trail and use identification keys to identify and name plants and trees.
- Use quadrats to estimate percentage cover of plants.
- Investigate the effect of light on nettle growth.
- Create a collage of a flower showing the different parts.

Review

Prior to departure there will be an opportunity to review and reflect on the day.

Risk management

See separate "Guidance notes for safe and effective Day Courses"

Supervision: For this Day Course our recommended adult:pupil ratio for safety is 1:8 in pre-arranged working groups

Weather conditions: CEES teachers are aware of daily weather forecasts and may adjust programmes depending on weather conditions on the day. See separate guidance on outdoor clothing and footwear.

Site conditions: CEES teachers will draw attention to any relevant risks

Equipment: Instructions are given on the safe use of all equipment.

Unfamiliar surroundings: Pupils are made aware of safe standards of behaviour and are closely supervised by adults at all times.