

Scavenger hunts

Scavenger hunts focus on exploring the nature reserve and really learning to look, listen and touch. Children will also learn what they can collect and what must be left alone and how to explore without disturbing the habitats for animals and birds.

Resources

- Clip board and pencil and a scavenger hunt sheet
- Bags or baskets to collect natural materials
- Camera to take photos of things which cannot be collected, e.g. flowers and trees

Activity

The best scavenger hunts are bespoke, made when the teacher visits the reserve a few days before to identify what is currently available to collect. A good scavenger hunt uses different senses e.g. touch and sight. Scavenger hunt sheets are available on www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives e.g. The egg box scavenger hunt which includes a YouTube video to watch before the visit.

Before setting off explain what can be collected and what must be left alone.

Once in the nature reserve children work in small groups with an adult to search for the items on their sheet.

Explain to the children the hunt is not a race. We want children to look and explore, not rush on in an effort to be first to complete the sheet. It is important that they take time to look, listen and touch.

Follow up

- Back at school use the items collected for a display and provide magnifying glasses to look in more detail. Provide books and pictures to extend children's interest. Use the objects found to produce a group collage or use them to make designs inside cane rings or picture frames made from sticks (see Early Years activity 3).

Visit CVCg.org.uk for more activity sheets and information about our nature reserve

