
Session type: Workshop

Duration: 60 minutes

Key Stage: EYFS & KS1

Main Curriculum Link:

EYFS: Literacy

Key Stage 1: English

Additional Curriculum Link:

EYFS: Mathematics, Understanding the World

Key Stage 1: Science

Overview

An Ocean Investigation workshop is all about getting hands on and discovering the world beneath the waves. Your children will have the opportunity to handle artefacts from our extensive specimen collections. For our youngest visitors, it's a chance to experience the shapes, colours and textures of our ocean inhabitants, whilst practicing phonics, literacy and numeracy along the way.

We do not use any live creatures during the workshop, but our range of specimens and artefacts includes starfish, turtles, shark teeth, seashells, whale bones and much more. Working in small groups, your children will first investigate the artefacts, identifying features, textures and patterns then experiment by grouping them according to different features.

EYFS Curriculum Links

Literacy: Reading. Children use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words.

Literacy: Writing. Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words.

Mathematics: Numbers. Children count reliably with numbers from 1 to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number.

Mathematics: Shape, space and measures. Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognize, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

Understanding the world: The world. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.

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National Curriculum Links

English Language Years 1-6: Spoken language

- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge
- Use relevant strategies to build their vocabulary
- Use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas

Key Stage 1 English: Reading – word reading

- Apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words [Y1]

Key Stage 1 Mathematics: Number

- Count to and across 100, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number [Y1]
- Given a number, identify one more and one less [Y1]
- Compare, describe and solve practical problems for:
 - Lengths and heights [for example, long/short, longer/shorter, tall/short, double/half] [Y1]

Key Stage 1 Mathematics: Measurement

- Measure and begin to record the following:
 - Lengths and heights [Y1]

Key Stage 1 Mathematics: Geometry

- Recognise and name common 2-D and 3-D shapes, including:
 - 2-D shapes [for example, rectangles (including squares), circles and triangles] [Y1]
 - 3-D shapes [for example, cuboids (including cubes), pyramids and spheres] [Y1]
- Compare and sort common 2-D and 3-D shapes and everyday objects [Y2]

Key Stage 1 Science: Working Scientifically

- Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways
- Observing closely, using simple equipment
- Identifying and classifying
- Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions

Key Stage 1 Science: Animals including humans

- Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals [Y1]
- Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores [Y1]
- Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets) [Y1]

Key Stage 1 Science: Everyday materials

- Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made [Y1]
- Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties [Y1]
- Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials [Y1]

Key Stage 1 Science: Living things and their habitats

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- Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive [Y2]
 - Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats ([Y2]
 - 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 [Y2]
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Learning Outcomes

Pupils will be able to:

- Correctly pronounce and use words from an increased vocabulary in a descriptive sentence
 - Explain the terms carnivore, herbivore & omnivore
 - Distinguish between things that are living, that are dead and that have been alive
 - Use practical investigation and reasoning skills to group and classify different objects
 - Name and identify common marine species of plant and animals including fish, birds, reptiles and mammals
 - Describe an object by referring to its recognizable properties, e.g. size, colour, shape, weight
 - Explore their ideas with their peers and discuss different opinions in group settings
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Pre-Visit Suggestions

- We will be using adjective labels to describe artefacts during the workshop. Before coming along, you could create some of your own with your class, and bring them with you to use on the day
- We can provide images of some of our artefacts in advance. If you would like us to send you some, get in touch and your children can use them to make predictions about how they will feel in real life before coming on the day
- Talk about the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates before you arrive

Post-Visit Suggestions

- Try creating 5 different posters of the five vertebrate groups using pictures from magazines
- Use your adjective labels to create opposite pairs for a wall display back at school

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