Y4 Science – Habitats

A habitat is the home of an animal or a plant. Almost every place on Earth — from the hottest desert to the coldest icy place — is a habitat for some kinds of animals and plants. Most habitats include a community of animals and plants along with water, oxygen, soil or sand, and rocks.

* Go for a walk round your garden and/or immediate locality (when you take your daily exercise) to find and make a list of habitats, e.g. pond, field, wood, tree, hedge, flower bed, grassy patch, plant trough, under leaf, under stone.
* Try using simple keys to identify plants and animals found in different habitats. You could use reference books or identification guides from the internet to help you. There are even some mobile phone apps that you can download for free (with an adult’s permission) which will identify plants etc.

Remember if animals are touched, treat them sensitively and return them to the habitat from which they came as soon as possible. If you move a habitat, e.g. a log, remember to put it back where and as you found it.

Don’t forget to wash your hands after touching plants or animals outside.

* You could record your findings as an information poster/book, or as a PowerPoint presentation.

Useful websites/activities

* BBC Bitesize - Food Chains and habitats

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbnnb9q>

* Habitats activity booklet

<http://www.wildwoodtrust.org.uk/files/ks2-habitats.pdf>

* Find out about your garden wildlife in your garden

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/other-garden-wildlife/>

* Interesting activity sheets from the charity RSPB including:-

Spot it! Sheets - Identification sheets/guides

Food and water for nature – to show how to provide food and water for nature

Homes for nature – guide on how to build homes for nature

Nature detective equipment – be a nature detective!

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/lesson-plans-and-supporting-resources/>

* Tree identification

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/tree-id-kids/>

* Plant and Animals identification sheets

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/lesson-plans-and-supporting-resources/spot-it/>

* Make your own mini-pond from a container

<https://www.wwt.org.uk/discover-wetlands/home-learning-and-family-fun/who-lives-where/>