

Science - Year 4

Name That Living Thing!



Be a super spotter!

How many trees can you identify?



Alder



Beech



Oak



Sycamore



Birch



Holly



Elder



Ash



Horse Chestnut



Field Maple



Hawthorn



Hazel



Rowan

Local Living Things

<p>What is it? Do you know what it is? Have a go at writing the name of it.</p>	<p>Where did you find it? Write down which area you found it in. Add details about the habitat conditions such as shady, light, damp, dry.</p>	<p>What does it look like? Draw a quick sketch, jot down details like how many legs or wings, take a photo and write the photo number.</p>

Observing and collecting Guidelines

Pick up insects using a plastic spoon or a paintbrush as they are delicate and can be easily harmed. There are a number of ways children can search – looking carefully in leaf litter, soil, grass or overturning logs, stones, etc. and carefully replacing them; ‘tree beating’ – lay a large white sheet under a tree branch or bush while a child shakes it vigorously (you might have to be quick to spot some of the creatures if they can fly, e.g. lacewing or run fast, e.g. spider!); use a sweep net to check what lives in long grass or nettles; use a pond net to collect creatures from a pond.

Fallen leaves can be gathered to bring back to the class. A small number of leaves can be taken from the plant, but it can damage the plant if too many are taken. Children must check before touching a plant – many common British plants can be poisonous.

Safety: Remind children not to put their hands near their mouths after searching for or handling insects until they have washed them. Also point out that nettles, brambles, ponds, etc. can be hazardous. If using nets check they will not be hitting anyone. Also before you embark on your field trip you should talk to the children about how to treat living things with respect and care, explaining that all specimens of insects should be returned to their habitat unharmed. If you are visiting a site out of the school grounds this will have to be done before you leave, so photograph them and sketch them before releasing them back into the wild. Show children The Qualities of a Good Observer or Collector (*see session resources*).

Qualities of a Good Observer or Collector



Search carefully, disturbing the surroundings as little as possible.



Handle only a few, but look at many living things.



Replace overturned logs and stones.



Carefully return the living things to their natural habitat after your study.



Do not pick wild flowers; draw them or photograph instead.