

Summary of Day

Listen to the story and make your own tadpole. Explore the Rock garden and its ponds, observe and investigate some creatures in pre-collected trays of pond water. Collect pictures of pond creatures to stick onto a headband as a record of what has been seen.

Learning objectives

- Children will become familiar with and understand the story of The Big Bad Fish
- Children will begin to recognise creatures that live in ponds
- Children will understand that tadpoles become frogs

Prior Learning

No prior learning is essential for children to take part in this day.

To maximise children's learning during their visit, it would be beneficial for them to be familiar with the story of 'Look Out For The Big Bad Fish' (Look Out for The Big Bad Fish, Sheridan Cain and Tanya Linch ISBN 1-85430-448-8)

Example outline of the day

Approx 10 am	Arrive / Introduction to Gatton Park / Safety talk
10.15 - 10.45	Read the story of the 'Look Out for The Big Bad Fish' and make a tadpole.
10.45 - 11.15	Outside – look at pond creatures in trays of water.
11.15 - 11.35	Complete a trail around the gardens collecting pictures of pond creatures to put on a headband
11.35 - 12.00	Back in classroom – make 'pond creature' headband.

Assessment Opportunities

Gatton Staff will assess progress throughout the day by open ended questioning and plenary session.

- Can the children retell the 'Look Out for the Big Bad Fish' story?
- Can the children recognise some pond creatures?
- Can the children explain that a tadpole changes into a frog?
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Information for the group leader

- Outdoor clothing & sturdy footwear / wellies are advised
- Please note that due to the nature of the study site, adjustments may need to be made to this programme for those visitors who use a wheelchair or have limited mobility. Please contact the Centre to discuss alternatives.
- Please note this day will go ahead in most weather conditions. However alternative bad weather activities are available at the Centre if necessary.
- Centre Risk Assessments are available for those who come on a pre-visit; these may be used to write your own risk assessments in accordance with your school's requirements.

Post Visit learning opportunities

- Set up a 'pond dipping' area in a water tray, use nets to see what they can find
- Collect frogspawn and look after it while it turns into tadpoles and then frogs

Differentiation

- Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate
- Specific adjustments can be made to suit individual needs in conjunction with the class teacher.

Access

- Different learning styles considered throughout the day.
- Please inform us in advance if any of your students have limited mobility.

Adult Participation

- Adults to encourage participation and give support as appropriate during practical tasks.

Resources

All resources for the day are provided by Gatton Park, including:

- Materials to make tadpole and headband