

Life cycles and habitats KS1

Best done in the summer

3 groups – circuit

Alternatively 2 groups doing pond dipping and bug hunting (combining activities 1 and 3 to avoid using the copse and trampling blue bells.) This is OK unless a large class. **See Nature Detectives**

Activity 1

Bug hunting with sweep nets in grassland.

Take care with nets and insects etc caught !!

Explain that all minibeasts are not 'bugs' or even insects

Identify keys for adults and simple keys for children

Insects – 6 legs, flies, beetles etc. Hopefully ladybirds and larvae.

Spiders 8 legs – eggs, spiderlings, spiders

Near upper seat in field 1

Marbled white butterflies (hopefully) plus pictures.

Life cycle, egg – larva – pupa (chrysalis) – adult ...mate - eggs...

food plants and need for long grass

Some info available

Burnet moths

look out for cocoons and emerging moths

Activity 2

Pond dipping – identifying what you can from simple keys.

Use pond 2.

Equipment - net, white tray, spoon, magnifying pot, key
dragonfly nymph? and life cycle

Activity 3

Bug hunting in the copse – using beating sheets and looking in leaf litter and under logs.

We have FSC keys – they can look at pictures.

Continue round site looking for insects on docks, under leaves etc.

Also butterflies and spiders.....

Timing

Brief introduction, safety and organising 10 -15mins

Circuit of activities of about 25 mins each plus 5 mins for change over/catch up.

Summing up and sort out at the end in time to get back to school