

Aim: for pupils to understand the landscape features of Rockingham Forest

Learning objectives:

- To develop pupils' geographical vocabulary
- To develop understanding of maps, co-ordinates, scale and symbols
- To develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the landscape of the Rockingham Forest

Resources

Copy sheet for Activity 9, one for each child
Glossary sheets to share
Red kite fact sheet to share
Rockingham Forest fact sheet to share

What to do

- Look at the map together as a class and discuss the features that you can see.
- Discuss the position of the red kite nests. Kites will nest quite close together and will also feed together. They nest in sheltered woodland and the mixed farming in the Rockingham Forest means that they can find plenty of *carrion*, worms and beetles to feed on.
- In discussion with the children, you can build the use of vocabulary in describing where the kites are nesting and what features they can see. As the students complete the activity sheet, they will practise the use of co-ordinates and scale. Take time to explain these concepts if they are not familiar with them.
- Pupils will use the fact sheets to complete the final activity, referring to the ancient names for kites.

Extension activity

- Can pupils discover the meanings of some of the village or road names close to the school?
- Compare the map on the activity sheet with a map of a contrasting area, eg Norfolk. How is land use different and how is the topography different? (OS map 154, for example, covers a very flat arable area).
- Can the students plan an afternoon walk taking them through villages, fields and woods? Could they write the directions and produce an illustrated guide?

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- 1 Look at the different ways in which the land is used. Colour the map according to land use.
- 2 What will you find at these co-ordinates (15,74), (17,55), (02,65)?
- 3 Give the co-ordinates for the following:
 - Glada Church
 - The junction of Puttock Lane and *Kitnor* Way
 - Barcud Manor
 - The kite nest that is furthest east
 - The kite nest that is furthest south
- 4 How far is it by footpath from Crotchtail Village to Glada Church?
If the church service starts at 9.30 am, what time would you need to leave Crotchtail? (Most young people walk at no more than 3 km/hour).
- 5 Write a paragraph to describe the landscape shown on the map. These are words that you might find useful.

<i>Steep</i>	<i>Common land</i>
<i>Stream</i>	<i>Fields</i>
<i>Narrow</i>	<i>Valley</i>
<i>Woodland</i>	<i>Village</i>
<i>Farmland</i>	<i>Lane</i>
<i>Contours</i>	

Scul Stream
Kitnor Hill
Glada Village
Puttock Lane

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KEY:

Woodland		Road	
Buildings		River	
Church		Footpath	
Red kite nest		Farmland	



Activity 10: Spreading their wings

KS 2/3

Aim: to learn about the behaviour of red kites and increase knowledge of places in the East Midlands

Learning objectives:

- To use an atlas to locate towns in southern Britain
- To understand the migratory behaviour of red kites in different seasons and at different ages

Resources

Copy sheet for Activity 10
Atlas of Great Britain
Access to the internet (for extension activity)

What to do

- Discuss why kites might want to disperse during their immature years.
- Using an atlas, ask the children to plot the sightings of red kites on the map.
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of breeding close together?

Background information

The red kites at Rockingham re-introduction programme has been very successful, with good rates of breeding and widespread dispersal of adult birds. This is because the Rockingham Forest, with its frequency of good-sized woodlands, is an ideal *habitat* for the kites. In fact, in both 2001 and 2002, the reproduction rate was higher than anywhere else in the UK. This has led to a wide-scale dispersal of young birds, although many of them will return to their birth place to make their first attempt at breeding when they are two or three years old.

Extension activity

- Search the internet or reference books to look up information about some of the places which red kites have visited over the summer months. Here are a couple of sites to start with:
www.peakdistrict-tourism.gov.uk
www.southeastengland.uk.com
- How are they different to the Rockingham Forest?
- Write a postcard from one of the red kites describing its journey and the places it has seen.

Activity 10



Spreading their Wings

Red kites breed in the Rockingham Forest but they don't necessarily stay there all year. The coloured wing tags mean that we can identify where the kites from Rockingham Forest go on their migrations. Below is a list of places and dates where red kites hatched in Rockingham Forest have been seen. Most of these were young birds that were not yet ready to breed. Most of these birds eventually come back to the Rockingham Forest to breed.

- 1 Use an atlas to look up the places where Rockingham Forest kites were seen.
- 2 Mark on the map of southern Britain overleaf where they were seen and when.
- 3 What does this table tell us about the behaviour of red kites?
Can you think of any reasons for this?

Area where the kite was seen	Date when the kite was seen
Bournemouth, Dorset	19/01/01
Aberystwyth, Wales	05/03/02
Grantham, Lincolnshire	22/04/02
Kings Lynn, Norfolk	20/05/02
Liverpool, Merseyside	15/11/02
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire	06/12/02
Aberystwyth, Wales	15/12/02
Oxford, Oxfordshire	18/12/02



Spreading their Wings



Aim: to learn about the feeding behaviour of red kites and the different ways of interpreting data

Learning objectives:

- Find the area of an irregular shape
- Interpret scales and carry out accurate measurement
- Interpret, discuss and synthesise information presented in a variety of forms

Resources

Copy sheet for Activity 11

Ruler

What to do

- Ask the children to use the maps showing the locations of red kites to work out the areas that the birds use for feeding.
- Discuss what the children think about this form of representing the data. Could it be represented in a different way?

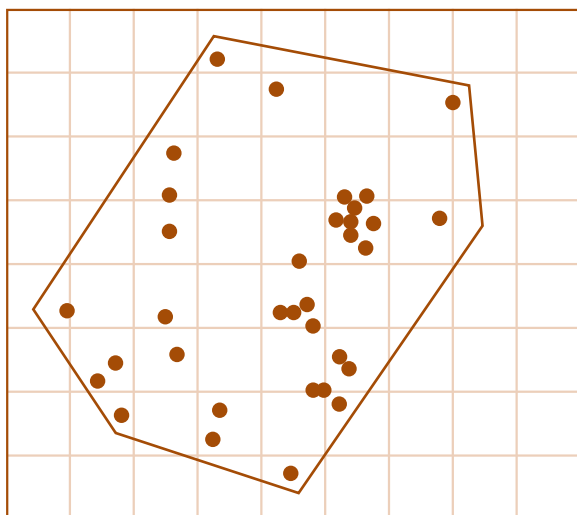
Activity 11



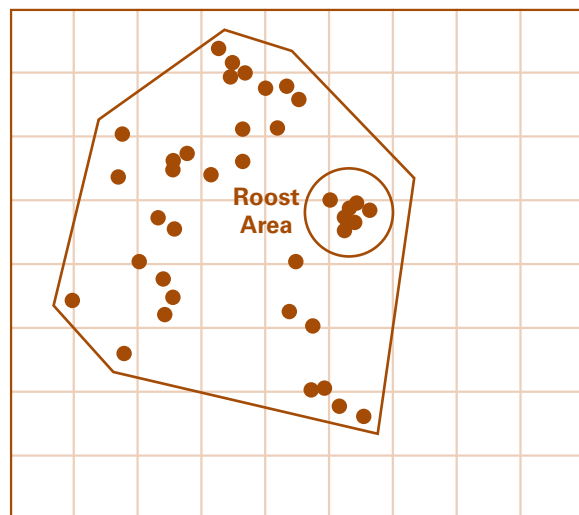
Close to Home

Below are two maps representing the locations of two kites during the course of a winter season. The red kites were located by radio tracking equipment. Each kite had a tiny radio transmitter attached to it that gave signals at a particular frequency.

- 1 Mark on Map A where you think this kite roosted.
- 2 What is the farthest distance from the roost site that each bird travelled to find food?
- 3 Work out approximately what area a red kite will use in winter to find its food. Give your answer in square kilometres.



MAP A



MAP B

Scale: each box = 1 km