



Making the most of your visit

A visit to the woods can be a fun and valuable learning experience. But it can be so much more than just a stand alone activity.

Why not try and work some of these quick and simple activity ideas into your lesson plans?

- Using ICT carry out some research into Sherwood Pines or forests – use the 'Where are you going?' worksheet for some question ideas.
- Discover a sense of place. Compare and contrast where you live with the forest you visit A great way to do this is with a 360^o poem. To do this get a group of children to stand in a circle, facing outwards. Give them a moment to take in the view and then go round the circle and encourage the children to say what they see, hear or feel. Record the words and use them to create a poem. This can be done once at school and then again in the forest to create a comparison. You can also use a video or flip camera to help you record this – just get the children to pass the camera around as they speak to record the view.
- Get ready for the day with a fun bag packing activity. Display a range of both appropriate things to bring, such as a coat or a sun cap, and inappropriate things to bring such as flip flops or a games console. Get the children to work in groups to decide what they should bring with them on the day.
- Being safe. Making sure you are safe on a school trip is essential. Why not give the children some of this responsibility too. Use some pictures of the risks that they might encounter and ask them to plan how they would stay safe – use the 'Being safe in the forest' worksheet and pictures to help you.
- When the class knows all about their visit why not ask them to write the letter to their parents to explain the trip to them and ask for their permission?

Enjoy your visit!