

Curriculum Area

Science- Living Things- Plant and Animal Life

Lesson objectives

- observe, identify and investigate the animals and plants that live in local environments
- become aware of some of the basic life processes in animals
- sort and group living things into sets according to observable features

Class Level

3rd/4th

Description of specific tablet activities

The children in groups will use the tablets on a field trip of the local area to identify minibeasts and insects.

They will record short videos and take photographs of the minibeasts and insects they find on the school grounds- the animals in their local environment e.g. in trees, hedgerows, under rocks, stones, logs etc.

I think the use of tablets would be great here as it means they will not have to disturb the insects themselves by moving them to examine them. They can record using the app Explain Everything and use the voice recording to comment on what they see e.g. describe the insect, what interesting things they notice about the insect, how they move etc.

They can share their findings with each other by showing their videos and photos on the interactive whiteboard back in the classroom.

In follow up lessons they can research one of the minibeasts that interests them in more detail using the Britannica Schools website and write a report on them linking in with First Steps writing.

Skills/topics supported by this lesson

Questioning

Observing minibeasts in the local environment

Analysing the environment

Classifying the insects

Recording information and communicating their findings with each other