

Information Sheet



OPAL Water Survey

Help the OPAL water scientists with their water survey. Animals living in the water can tell us a great deal about how polluted it may or may not be. Some species will struggle to survive in polluted waters, while others are more tolerant.

Curriculum Links

Interdependence and adaptation: Use of scientific keys, discussion of food webs in the pond habitats, adaptations of animals to their environment.

At the end of the Session children will have..

Learnt about the animals who live in a pond.

Used a key to identify them.

Learnt about a pond food web.

Used a pollution index to find out how polluted a pond is.

What happens in the session

We visit the Trust pond and spend some time pond dipping and seeing what lives in the pond. We will use keys to identify what we find and then play some games linked to food webs. The information gathered will then be compared to the pollution index to get a value for the pond.

Suggested follow-up activities

Inputting the information on to the Opal website

Suggested lead-in activities to do at school

Have a look at the Opal website to why the water scientists need the information

Information Sheet

Session Length

2 hours