

Coastal Discovery KS1

Session Overview and Learning Objectives

Visit Summary

- This visit is suitable for one class at a time of up to 30 pupils. Children will be split into smaller groups where possible during the day, which will be run by one member of Wildlife Trust staff.
- Each session will last up to 60 minutes
- Required ratio – 1 adult: 6 pupils; we welcome parent volunteers from your schools.
- These visits are on public beaches so will rely on public toilet facilities and public shelters.
- This visit allows pupils to explore their nearest beach, with activities designed to encourage curiosity, exploration and foster a connection with the ocean.

Location

Available beaches are: Felixstowe, Bawdsey, Dunwich and Sizewell. We can liaise with you on exact locations and advise on transport but cannot organise coach parking for you should this be a requirement.

Languard Point (Felixstowe) and Shingle Street may also be available, however these are sites of special scientific interest due to their rare vegetated shingle habitat so permission will need to be sought in advance.

All equipment is provided.

Visit Outline

	Location	Activity
Arrival	On the beach	Meet and greet; introduction to the site, setting boundaries with a game followed by an overview of safety on public beaches.
Session 1	Geographers	Exploring our weather and features of the beach. We'll look at clouds, wind direction and temperature.
Session 2	Beach explorers	Beachcombing the strandline for evidence of marine invertebrates, followed by identification and basic classification.
1 hour	On the beach	Lunch, including the "Lunchbox Challenge" around the issue of single use plastic.
Session 3	Save our seas	Overview of human pressures on the ocean, including a beach clean. Litter materials classification and decomposition activity.
Departure	Return to school	Wash hands and collect lunch bags, board coach / walk back.

Learning Objectives and links to the National Curriculum

Our programme touches on a number of learning objectives in the science and geography programmes of study, including working scientifically and understanding plants, animals and materials. All children will be introduced to some new concepts and practice working scientifically, which some will be able to build on to extend their understanding. Our work also encourages the continued development of the EYFS framework skills, in these areas:

- communication and language
- physical development
- personal, social and emotional development
- literacy
- mathematics
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design

Geographers

- All children will be introduced to the 4 compass directions and which sea we live nearest.
- All will be able to observe the beach type and any landscape features.
- All will be working scientifically, observing (and in some cases, measuring) the weather.
- All will be introduced to some basic geographical vocabulary such as beach, cliff, coast, sea, ocean and river

Beach explorers

- All will learn how to identify some common shells and the other evidence of marine animals we find.
- Some will learn to distinguish between things that are living, dead, or those that haven't been alive.
- All will be shown links between marine animals and their offspring (by observing egg cases).
- Most will be able to identify and name some marine animals using photographs and identification sheets.
- Some will be able to start classifying animal groups according to shared characteristics.
- Some will be introduced to some common algae and coastal specialist plants (depending on the site).
- Some will be introduced to simple food chains of common marine animals using a game.

Save our Seas

- All will work as a team to undertake a beach clean.
- Most will help to undertake basic data collection and recording of marine litter.
- All will start to be able to distinguish an object from the material from which it is made.
- All will start to be able to identify and name a variety of everyday materials and observe their properties.
- All will compare groups of materials and start to sort them according to their properties.
- Some will be able to think about how materials change when manipulated.
- All will be shown evidence of human impacts on our marine animals which prevents them getting their basic survival needs met.
- All will be encouraged to connect with the ocean and make personal pledges to protect it.

Our sessions are run by a Childhood Licensed Practitioner in the Thrive Approach who is also qualified to support children's emotional literacy via Suffolk County Council's ELSA programme. If you have any SEND children in your group please let us know at the booking stage.