

Rockpooling Learnlink - Generic

About the Activity

This activity explores a rocky shore close to the centre. Groups have the opportunity to find and observe organisms in the different zones of the rocky shore. They will identify the organisms using dichotomous keys, discuss their adaptations and relate them to the zone of the rocky shore that they were found in.

Activity Aims

The aim of this activity is to:

- Introduce rockpooling.
- Introduce the equipment needed for the activity.
- Allow each participant to collect, record and analyse data.
- Ensure participants work together supporting and encouraging each other.
- Provide an opportunity for participants to discuss what they have accomplished.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the activity, participants will have:

- Identified and described the different zones of the rocky shore.
- Used keys to identify organisms on the rocky shore.
- Recognised that different organisms occur in different zones.
- Understood how a variety of organisms are adapted to the rocky shore and the zone they were found in.
- Recognised food chains on the rocky shore.
- Learnt to understand the importance of safety, risk, risk assessment, hazards and rules.
- Demonstrated the ability to listen to, understand and act on instructions received.
- Understanding of the importance of teamwork.
- Consolidated and then improved abilities such as fieldwork skills through performance.
- Contributed to a post activity review led by the instructor identifying what they did well and then suggested ways to improve.

Progression Opportunities

Some participants may also:

- Recognise food webs within the rocky shore.
- Understand that all food chains begin with a producer.
- Make accurate predictions on what types of organisms they will find in a zone.
- Take the initiative in evaluating their performance and that of the group.
- Be able to assess risks and understand how these may be controlled.

In addition, participants should also have developed in the following:

- Interpersonal communication
- Teamwork

Associated Vocabulary:

Words relevant to safety e.g. boundaries, hazards, risk assessment, rules.

Words relevant to equipment e.g. bug pot, identification key, net, tray.

Words relevant to the activity e.g. adaptation, carnivore, competition, consumer, disturbance, food chain, herbivore, life cycle, lower intertidal, pollution, predator, prey, producer, salinity, splash zone, temperature, tides, upper intertidal, waves, zones, zonation.

Words relevant to teamwork e.g. discussion, instruction, listening, opinion, participation.