

Linking the Activities with the National Curriculum and the Seasons

With the wealth of educational interest at the site, there is huge scope for designing or adapting your school's programme of work to incorporate curriculum linked visits to Sinfin Moor Park Local Nature Reserve. Past consultation with teachers, has highlighted the issue of planning for the seasons; many schools cover topics such as habitats and the local environment during the winter or early spring months.

Therefore, for each activity in the pack, the table below aims to communicate:

- National Curriculum links;
- The most appropriate seasons for the activity.

It is hoped that this information will help schools to plan when to cover specific topics which would be greatly enhanced by a visit to Sinfin Moor Park Local Nature Reserve.

National Curriculum Area/ Topic	Activity	Page	Best season for the activity
TRAILS AND MAPPING			
Geography – maps, plans, geographical vocabulary and fieldwork techniques; Science – habitats.	Activity M1- Habitats Trail	13	Anytime – but in winter the key habitats are not so clear (or inspiring).
Geography - navigation and observational skills. English - recall (using a visual aid)	Activity M2 - Journey Sticks	15	Anytime - but autumn is a good season for collecting items.
Geography – maps, impact of humans on the environment, decision making and sustainable management of environments; PSHE/Citizenship – caring for others.	Activity M3 - Sustainability for Real	17	Anytime
Geography – maps, plans, geographical vocabulary and fieldwork techniques. Science – green plants, tree identification and grouping of organisms, local environment and life processes; Maths – potentially the use of identification keys (branching data matrices) and tally charts/statistics.	Activity M4 - Tree Trail	21	Late Spring-Early Autumn (so the trees are in leaf).
Science – need for food, seasonal availability of natural resources and plant identification. English – reading factual information and instructions and cross-referencing.	Activity M5– Survival Hunt	23	Spring, summer or autumn are best as the leaves are present to identify.
Geography – maps, plans, geographical vocabulary and fieldwork techniques.	Activity M6 - Orienteering, Star Exercise	29	Anytime , but better in the warmer and drier months.

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Geography – maps, plans, geographical vocabulary and fieldwork techniques.	Activity M7 - Orienteering, Point to Point	31	Anytime , but better in the warmer and drier months.
History – KS2 – use of map, text and pictures for research and changes in the local area over time.	Activity M8 – History Trail	33	Anytime , but better in the warmer and drier months.
WILDLIFE			
Science – field skills, organisms in the local environment, life processes, animal body parts, care of animals and identification of organisms.	Activity W1- Minibeast Hunt	35	Late spring, summer and early autumn (May-October). June-July for Meadow Hunts.
Science – field skills, organisms in the local environment, life processes, animal body parts, care of animals and identification of organisms.	Activity W2- Pond Dipping	37	Spring and early autumn (possible in the summer months if the water levels are high enough – the ponds at this site often dry up).
Science – need for food and water and food chains and webs; Geography – influence of environmental factors.	Activity W3- Woodland and Wetland Food Webs	39	Anytime (including in the classroom).
Geography – site use and management; PSHE– teamwork and co-operation.	Activity W4 – Nature Trail Game	41	Anytime (a classroom activity).
Science – Life cycles and reproduction, need for food and water (KS1- Sc2, 1b). Geography – influence of environmental factors.	Activity W5 - Wetland Lifecycles	43	Anytime (can be a classroom activity).
Science – Roles of different organisms in the environment. The need for food and water (KS1- Sc2, 1b).	Activity W6 - Nature’s Recycling	45	Anytime (can be a classroom activity) but in the autumn it is easier to combine with a ‘fungal foray’.
Art Science – Materials and their properties.	Activity W7 - Environmental Art	47	Anytime (can be a classroom activity if natural materials are collected already).
Various, including Science and PE.	Activity W8- Environmental Games	49	Anytime (can be an indoor activity).

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SENSORY ACTIVITIES			
Art - colours Science – Foundation and KS1	Activity S1- Rainbow Chips	51	Autumn is best, but anytime is fine.
Science – KS1 Art – texture English - adjectives	Activity S2- Feelie Walk	53	Anytime , though hands may be cold without gloves in the winter.
Science – senses: touch and hearing; English - speaking and listening; PSHE – developing trust in relationships, plus empathy with the visually impaired.	Activity S3- Blindfold Walk	55	Anytime , though hands may be cold without gloves in the winter.
Music – KS1, listening and sound recall; Science KS1 – senses: hearing; Geography KS1 – recognising changes in the environment.	Activity S4- Tape Recorders	57	Anytime , but more likely to hear a range of birds in spring and summer .
Science – senses: smell; English – adjectives	Activity S5- Smelly Cocktails	59	Spring, summer or autumn
Science – senses: hearing, including judging distance and direction; Geography – comparing areas.	Activity S6- Sound Map	61	Anytime , but more likely to hear a range of birds in spring and summer .
Art - colours Science – Foundation and KS1	Activity S7- Colour Pictures	63	Autumn is best, but anytime is fine.
Science – senses: sight; English – narrative and descriptive language.	Activity S8- Ants Eye View	65	Summer , before the meadow is mown and not too wet.
Science – senses: touch, hearing and smell; English – poetry.	Activity S9- Sensory Trail	67	Anytime , but beware of wet and slippery conditions.
Science – senses (sight), observation and the role of 'scavengers'; English – understanding descriptions.	Activity S10- Scavenger Hunt	69	Anytime , but autumn usually yields most 'treasure'!
English – stories with challenging vocabulary; Science: senses; Art – range of colour.	Activity S11- Rainbow Colours	71	Autumn is usually best, but anytime is fine.
TREE ACTIVITIES			
Science - circulatory systems, plant growth and nutrition.	Activity T1- Heartbeat of a Tree	75	Spring
Science – green plants.	Activity T2-Eye in the Sky	77	Late spring, summer and early autumn .

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Science – green plants, tree identification and grouping of organisms, local environment and life processes; Maths – use of keys (branching data matrices).	Activity T3-Which Tree are You?	79	Late spring, summer and autumn.
Maths – measuring, recording; PSHE – teamwork.	Activity T4-How High?	81	Anytime , but better in the warmer and drier months.
Science – green plants, observation and life processes.	Activity T5-Leaf Slides (leaf variation)	83	Late spring, summer and autumn.
Science – green plants, circulatory systems and grouping of organisms; Maths – patterns, shapes and symmetry.	Activity T6-Leaf Rubbing	85	Late spring, summer and autumn.
Science – green plants, observation and life processes; English – describing patterns.	Activity T7-A Tree's Skin	87	Anytime , but better in the warmer and drier months.
Science – green plants, life processes and observing and comparing evidence and patterns; Maths – measurement and calculations	Activity T8-How Wide? How Old?	89	Anytime , but easier to identify the tree in late spring, summer and autumn.
Science – green/flowering plants, life processes and local environments.	Activity T9-Tree Seed Collection and Planting	91	Early autumn