

ACTIVITY 2



Pond Dipping

Season	Spring/Summer/Autumn
Site	All that have open water
Age Group	All
No. of Children	Any

Equipment Needed: White /light coloured tray (to enable you to see the minibeasts collected), nets, magnifying glass.



Safety Notes

Observe water safety at all times, do not lean over too far. Select your pond-dipping location wisely, being aware of slippery bank sides. Supervise children closely at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after coming into contact with pond or river water as this can bear disease. Do not look directly into the sunlight with a magnifying glass.

Site Conservation Notes:

Please be aware of the delicate nature and potential rarity of minibeasts. Do not keep the minibeasts in for longer than necessary and always return them to water once you have finished looking at them.

Links

www.naturedetectives.org.uk to download identification sheets, fact sheets and much more information about minibeasts.

Instructions

1. Select an area of water that you would like to pond dip. This should be an area where the bank is not steep, not muddy or slippery and does not fall directly into deep water. Be aware of any currents. Minibeasts are most likely to be found in shallow water near the bank side.
2. Fill the white tray with water from the pond or river. Place this on the bank side close to where you want to pond dip.
3. Approach the bank of the water, kneel with one knee down and one foot down (this gives better balance than being on both knees or standing and leaning over).

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