

Invertebrate hunt

Teachers notes

Please visit the site before your field trip for health and safety purposes.
Always make sure that children are supervised at all times.

Working in teams or small groups the aim of the invertebrate hunt is to collect, identify and record some of the invertebrates living in the Inch Levels Woodland.

Equipment list

Each team member should have at least 1 piece of equipment to help them collect, study and record their findings.

1. A specimen collecting pot - this could be a yoghurt pot or a small plastic container.
2. Collecting box— An ice-cream tub is an ideal collecting box but make sure that your container has a lid so nothing escapes. You can make small holes in the top for ventilation.
3. A Magnifying glass—to get up close and study the catch
4. A Clip board and pencil
5. An Invertebrate hunt recording and identification sheet

Where should you search?

Invertebrates can be found living on the woodland floor under leaves; under stones, on the surface of the soil and in pieces of dead bark. They can also be found living in the trees; in crevices of the tree trunk, on the bark, branches and on the leaves.

Collecting and recording

Allocate a small section of the woodland for each team to work in. When a specimen is found the team member with the collecting pot should carefully catch it then transfer it to the collecting box.

When the team has collected a number of specimens they can record their findings. Using the recording table compare the invertebrates to the pictures and record the number of each found. If the specimen can not be identified from the table a member of the team can draw a labeled sketch of it to identify it in class. Record as much information as possible to aid identification.

Once the information has been recorded then free the specimens back to the area where they were found!