

Session 1: Introduction to Invertebrates

In this session the class will be introduced to the world of aquatic invertebrates, learning about their diversity, life cycles and why they are so important in our rivers. They will then prepare for keeping invertebrates in their classroom by creating their own aquaria.

Curriculum areas covered: Science, Design and Technology, Social Science/Geography



Session 2: Sampling for Invertebrates



Having set up their aquaria, this session is when the classes collect their invertebrates. Classes will visit their local river to carry out kick sampling (a method for catching invertebrates). Having collected their samples, the class will then use biological keys to identify the invertebrates they have caught and then use this information to carry out a pollution score test for the river. Once completed, invertebrates will then be selected and taken back to the aquaria in the classroom.

Curriculum areas covered: Science, Health and Wellbeing, Maths

Session 3: Releasing the Invertebrates

Having monitored the invertebrates throughout their time in the classroom and (hopefully) seen them undergo metamorphosis from juveniles to adults, the class will then release them back into the wild. The class will take another trip to the river to do this, as well as to recap on the project and look out for other organisms living in or around the river, linking them back to invertebrates.



Curriculum areas covered: Science

Invertebrates in the Classroom can be run in either the summer or autumn term of the school calendar. Two of the sessions involve trips to the river but this is dependent on weather conditions, river levels and proximity to a safe, suitable location on the river. The project leader will keep in contact with teachers to monitor whether these trips to the river will be possible, but if for any reason they are not, then invertebrate samples can also be taken into the classroom.

If you would like to take part in Invertebrates in the Classroom, or even just like to find out a bit more about the project, then please do get in touch with the Tweed Foundation.

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Suitable for: Levels 1 & 2, KS 1 & 2