



# Take It Outside: Summer

## Habitat Hunters

### Introduction

You may enjoy coming to school each day, but what else makes its home in your school grounds? Become a Habitat Hunter and investigate your school grounds to discover the amazing array of life that thrives in the most unexpected places.

### You will need:

- map of your school grounds
- coloured pencils or coloured stickers



### Key Questions

- Where would you look to find minibeasts and insects?
- Which plant or animal would prefer to live around trees? Which would prefer grassy areas?
- Where is the most surprising place to find a habitat?

### What to do:

1. Look at a map of your school grounds and make yourself familiar with it. Where is your classroom? Where is the playground? Identify habitats and predict what you might find living there.
2. Plan a walk around the school grounds to visit as many areas as possible.
3. Investigate each area closely. What habitats can you find? What creatures would you expect to find? How are they adapted to live here? Remember, the cracks and crevices in a wall could be home to as many creatures as a leafy bush.
4. Take photographs of the areas you find. You could create a colour code to show at a glance the type of habitat your school ground offers. For example, green shading or sticker to show trees, brown to show woodpiles and blue for a pond.
5. Identify an area to develop into a habitat to encourage more wildlife. Where will you build it? Why? What material do you need to use? Which living things are you trying to encourage to make its home there?
6. You could use this creative resource to design a creature to live in the habitat you create: [www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t2-s-632-design-a-creature-for-a-habitat-activity-sheet](http://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t2-s-632-design-a-creature-for-a-habitat-activity-sheet)



### Ways to Support

Use tablets or create a journey stick or bracelet to recall your walk and the habitats you find. [www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-2547281-journey-bracelet-outdoor-activity](http://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-2547281-journey-bracelet-outdoor-activity)

### Ways to Extend

Consider how the living things are adapted to the habitats in which you find them. Make predictions on what you expect to find based on this. Plan your new habitat to encourage specific creatures. Consider the other creatures that will also be encouraged to visit your school grounds.

### Curriculum Links

**Science:** Identify how plants and animals are suited to their environment; Planning a scientific enquiry and collecting results; Make systematic and careful observations.