



# What impact do humans have on woodland / field habitats?



## Learning Intention

- Raise awareness that a local area can contain several different habitats.
- Encourage pupils to consider man's effect on the environment.
- Develop map reading skills.

## National Curriculum Skills

**Geography** – Understand that humans affect/protect the environment, and that we have a responsibility to look after the environment.

## Activity Outline

- \* Study a sketch map, noting key features.
- \* Colour code map and make a key.
- \* Use writing frames to discuss human impact.

## Resources

Sketch map

Coloured pencils

Writing frames

Teacher's notes


Prior to lesson, revisit local woodland – draw simple route map (lower KS2) or study aerial map (upper KS2) Google maps Local O/S maps




# How do we affect our local environment ...?

## Lesson Outline

- Study the sketch map and note the following key features:
  1. Stream
  2. Pond
  3. Fields
  4. Hill (heather and rough grass).
  5. Farm wood along river (steep glen) and around fields
  6. Farm and farm buildings
  7. Grid, scale and key
- Discuss how many habitats there are on the map: pond / wood / stream / fields.
- Refer to Species Notes for some of the most threatened and important wild plants and animals found in this environment (there will be many other wild plants and animals that may be more common).
- Colour code the map to show the different habitats and add the colours to the key to produce a Habitat Map.
- Use the writing frame to promote discussion between the children, first in groups and then as a whole class.



How could we lessen this impact?



“How do we make an impact on this environment? endangered or even extinct?”

# How do we affect our local environment?

Work in your group to discuss the issues.  
Write down any interesting points you have to share with the class later.

How would spraying the weeds with pesticide affect the insect population in the area?

Is it possible for a badger to travel from East to West without leaving the shelter of a wood or a hedge?  
Why would this be important?

If all the trees were cleared near the river, what would happen to the wildlife in the area

What would happen to the wildlife in and around the pond if it was drained?

# How do we affect our local environment?

Work in your group to discuss the issues.  
Write down any interesting points you have to share with the class later.

What might happen if the farmer spills a huge barrel of chemical weed killer in the farmyard?  
Which grid squares would be affected?

Is it possible for a badger to travel from East to West without leaving the shelter of a wood or a hedge?  
Why would this be important?

The farmer wants to combine or join fields. He needs to take away the hedges that divide them.  
What impact will this have on the wildlife in the area?

If he sprays all the crops with pesticide, what do you think will happen to the ecosystem?



**Key**

1. Oak
2. Wood Mouse
3. Barn Owl
4. Yellowhammer
5. Pygmy Shrew
6. Stoat
7. Reed Bunting
8. Devils Bit Scabious
9. Marsh Fritillary Butterfly
10. Newt

-  Stream
-  Hedgerow
-  Pond
-  Farm Buildings
-  Woodland
-  Marshy Grassland
-  Hill (heather and rough grass)



Scale