

Teacher's notes Marvellous Mammals



CUILCAGH
LAKELANDS
GEOPARK



This workshop lets pupils get up close and personal with some of the Geopark's most elusive and marvellous mammals! Pupils will have a chance to touch and see our taxidermy collection, allowing them to see some mammals they may never see in the wild, including Pine Marten, Stoat and Otter. Pupils will have a chance to go on a nature walk to see if we can spot any signs of mammals that live in the area, including prints, sets/dens, droppings, etc. Pupils will learn about the food chain, life cycle, and the habitats needed to support the huge array of wildlife. Pupils will also learn about endangered and protected wildlife, and how humans and the wildlife can co-exist.

Level: NI: Key stage 2
ROI: 3, 4, and 5th class

Time required: 90 minutes

Curriculum links: This experiment links with the National Curriculums of Northern Ireland (The World Around Us) and Ireland (Geography, History and Science)

Northern Ireland	Ireland
<p>NI – Interdependence - How living things rely on each other within the natural world: Local habitats, for example, woodland, lake, river, seashore, protected area or pond (KS2); The relationship between animals and plants in a habitat (KS2); Plants and plant growth (KS2)</p> <p>NI – Place How place influences the nature of life (KS2); Ways in which people, plants and animals depend on the features and materials in places and how they adapt to their environment: Places then and now and how our identity, way of life and culture has been shaped by influences from the local and wider world.</p>	<p>Ireland -Geography - Natural Environments: The local natural environment; Land, rivers, and seas of my county. Rocks and Soils; Weather, climate and atmosphere</p> <p>Science – Environmental Awareness and Care: Environmental awareness</p> <p>Science – Living Things: Human life; Plant and animal life</p>



Features of, and variations in places, including physical, human, climatic, vegetation and animal life (KS2): Places then and now	
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Learning Objectives:

Students will understand:

- What a mammal is – They have hair, they give birth to live young, are warm blooded, females can produce milk and they breathe air
- Different mammals that live in Northern Ireland and Ireland
- Mammals that are considered native and invasive
- What a habitat is and different habitats that mammals live in
- The food chain, including producers and consumers, herbivores, carnivores and omnivores

Students will have developed their skills in:

- Investigating and experimenting
- Observing
- Recording and communicating

They will use these resources:

- Geopark taxidermy collection
- Geopark food chain game

Structure of the Day:

Time	Subject
5 mins	Introduction to Geopark, discussion on different mammals found in Ireland
40 mins	Discussion on mammals and facts using Geopark taxidermy collection
30 mins	Pupils will be lead on a walk to try to d=identify signs of animals, including sets/dens, tracks, droppings, habitats etc
10 mins	Pupils will be split into smaller groups to take part in the food chain game
5 mins	Pupils will be asked to reflect on what they have learnt and given booklets to take home/back to school for additional learning