AS AQA Biology

Investigating the Variety of Living Organisms, 3days

Students will carry out fieldwork in at least two different habitats and cover ideas about variation, classification and biodiversity from Unit 2 - The variety of living organisms.

FSC

BRINGING ENVIRONMENTAL UNDERSTANDING TO ALL

FSC programmes are fixed length courses with clearly stated outcomes and links to National Curriculum requirements.

Please visit
http://www.field-studies-council.org/outdoorclassroom/biology/aqa/
for alternative biology fieldwork programmes covering A-level AQA biology fieldwork

Investigating the Variety of Living Organisms, 3days

PROGRAMME LENGTH

3 Days (2 nights with 6 teaching sessions)

Monday / Wednesday	Tuesday / Thursday	Wednesday / Friday
Arrive for lunch. Afternoon and evening sessions	Morning, afternoon and evening sessions	Morning session. Depart after Lunch

OR

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Arrive for lunch. Afternoon and evening sessions	Morning, afternoon and evening sessions	Morning session. Depart after Lunch

PROGRAMME CONTENT

Definitions and Concepts	**Sampling and Experimental Techniques**	**Data Analysis and Presentation Skills**	**How Science Works (these areas will either be linked to fieldwork or discussion sessions)**
• Species concept • Taxonomy • Species Diversity	• Random sampling • Dependent & independent variables • Data collection	• Species Diversity Index • Graphical techniques • Mean, normal distribution and Standard deviation • Risk assessments • Methodical data collection • Identifying and managing limitations	• Human impact on diversity

Investigative Skills Assessments (ISA) and Practical Skills Assessments (PSA) will not be carried out but by the end of this programme students will have developed the following ISA/PSA skills:

- Changing a specific independent variable and measuring changes in the dependent variable
- Recognising, monitoring or keeping other variables constant
- Recognising accuracy, precision and reliability of data
- Risk management and ethical considerations
- Time management and methodical approaches
- Construction of raw data tables
- Choosing appropriate graphs
- Recognising correlations, causal relations and the tentative nature of data
- Drawing valid conclusions using wider biological knowledge and understanding
- Identify limitations and assessing relative effects on reliability, precision, conclusions
- Suggestions for further studies and of how limitations be reduced

Quality Badge awarded by
Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

External Recognition of Quality

All our centres have either been awarded the Quality Badge by The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, or are awaiting assessment. The badge is awarded to organisations that have demonstrated that they consistently deliver high quality teaching and learning experiences and manage risk effectively. This means that you will have to complete less paperwork when visiting our centres

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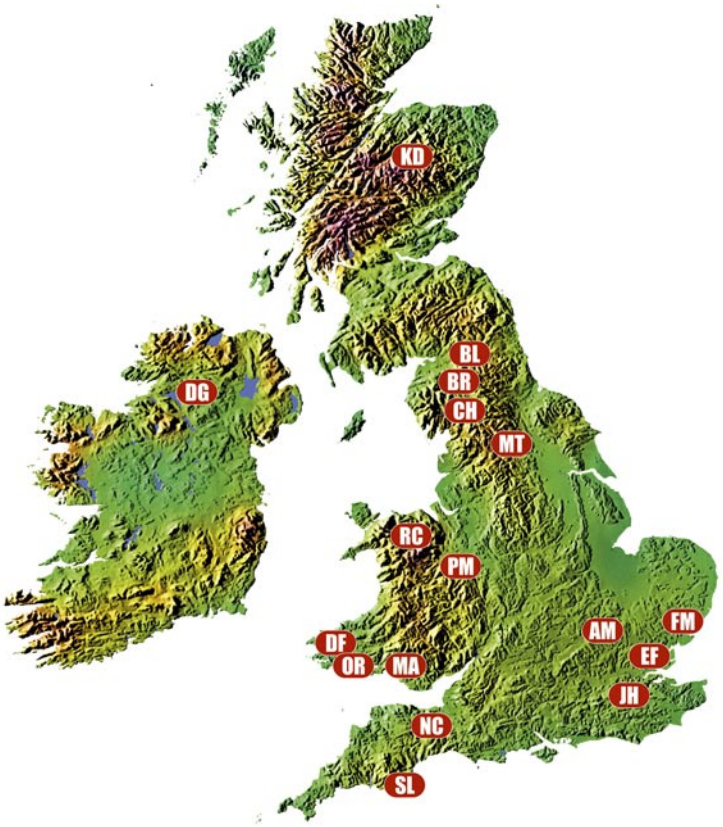
LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES

Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
• Provide students with an understanding of key ecological concepts • Provide students with experience of the ecological techniques and emphasise the justification and limitations of those techniques • Give opportunities for students to apply those skills in a variety of habitats including one terrestrial and one aquatic habitat • Show how skills and concepts can be transferred to other habitats and allow students to experience a range of experimental designs and establish the need for replication and controls • Explore a range of graphical and statistical techniques for the analysis of ecological data and make clear the links between experimental design and methods of analysis • Emphasise the justification and limitations of different techniques for the presentation and analysis of data • Give students increasing responsibility for the design of the sampling to be undertaken each day • Explore the synoptic links between ecological studies and other areas of the specification	**By the end of a programme we expect all students to:** • Have gained an understanding of the appropriate terminology used in ecological questions • Have demonstrated an ability to analyse and interpret ecological data using a variety of graphical and mathematical skills • Be able to use their findings in the context of standard ecological concepts and make synoptic links to other areas of their specification • Be able to transfer their skills and knowledge to the study of new habitats and new ecological questions **We also hope that students will:** • Have developed an understanding of, and respect for, living organisms in their natural habitats • Be able to appreciate the rich biodiversity of life within all types of habitats in the UK. • Explore how personal, social, moral and cultural issues can be put into a wider environmental context

FSC CENTRES

This programme is offered at our residential centres listed below, set in some of the most stunning locations in the UK.



FSC Centres that offer this programme:

BL	Blencathra	Tel: 01768 779 601
DF	Dale Fort	Tel: 0845 330 7365
DG	Derrygonnelly	Tel: 028 686 41673
FM	Flatford Mill	Tel: 0845 330 7368
JH	Juniper Hall	Tel: 0845 458 3507
KD	Kindrogan	Tel: 01250 870 150
MT	Malham Tarn	Tel: 01729 830 331
NC	Nettlecombe	Tel: 01984 640 320
OR	Orielton	Tel: 0845 330 7372
PM	Preston Montford	Tel: 0845 330 7378
RC	Rhyd-y-creuau	Tel: 01690 710 494
SL	Slapton Ley	Tel: 01548 580 466

TO BOOK THIS PROGRAMME, SIMPLY:

1. Choose the time of the year you would like to attend
2. Pick the centre/centres of interest
3. Check availability online or contact head office using the details at the bottom of the page or contact the centre of your choice

**Please note to book this programme the minimum size of your group must be 12 students and 1 member of staff*

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for alternative biology fieldwork programmes covering A-level aqa biology fieldwork

The FSC prides itself on being flexible. If you can't find a programme to meet your exact requirements a course specifically tailored to meet your needs can be developed. To discuss this, contact the centre of your choice. Fees will depend on what time of year you would like to visit and your length of stay but will be more expensive than FSC programmes at peak periods.

FSC Head office, Preston Montford, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1HW
Tel: 01743 852100 Fax: 01743 852101 Email: headoffice@field-studies-council.org Website: www.field-studies-council.org

PROGRAMME PRICES

Prices from 2010

3 day timetable Band A: £103 Band B: £117 Band C: £124 Band D: £138

Prices from 2011

3 day timetable Band A: £99 Band B: £112 Band C: £127 Band D: £145 Band E: £152

Week Beginning	Band	Week Beginning	Band	Week Beginning	Band
January 3 2011	A	June 13 2011	D	November 21 2011	B
January 10 2011	A	June 20 2011	E	November 28 2011	B
January 17 2011	A	June 27 2011	E	December 05 2011	A
January 24 2011	B	July 4 2011	E	December 12 2011	A
January 31 2011	B	July 11 2011	E	December 19 2011	A
February 7 2011	B	July 18 2011	C		
February 14 2011	C	July 25 2011	A		
February 21 2011	B	August 1 2011	A		
February 28 2011	C	August 8 2011	A		
March 7 2011	D	August 15 2011	A		
March 14 2011	D	August 22 2011	D		
March 21 2011	D	August 29 2011	D		
March 28 2011	D	September 05 2011	D		
April 4 2011	C	September 12 2011	D		
April 11 2011	B	September 19 2011	E		
April 18 2011	B	September 26 2011	E		
April 25 2011	D	October 03 2011	E		
May 2 2011	D	October 10 2011	E		
May 9 2011	D	October 17 2011	E		
May 16 2011	D	October 24 2011	B		
May 23 2011	D	October 31 2011	D		
May 30 2011	B	November 07 2011	C		
June 6 2011	D	November 14 2011	C		

Included within the programme price:

- Expert tuition by fully trained staff
- Rigorous and proven health and safety procedures including 24 hour emergency cover
- Access to risk assessments
- Full board (residential visits)
- Specialist equipment and exclusive access to specially developed resources
- Free places for visiting staff
- E-mail support before and after the course (on request)
- Personal and travel insurance

Please remember travel to the field centre and to fieldwork sites is not included in the programme fee.

FSC offers a number of programmes covering Science field trips, biology fieldwork, AS / A level biology fieldwork as well as geography field trips and geography fieldwork. Please visit our website for further information.

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