

# A Walk on the Wild Side

## Teacher's Notes

### Workshop Programme

This workshop is designed to cover a selection of requirements for Art & Design, Science and English. This workshop can be delivered at Key Stages 1 & 2.

### Learning Objectives

The workshop is led by Leeds Castle education staff who will support the children in looking at, and thinking about British wildlife, including habitats, adaptation and life processes.

The workshop covers a number of the listening and speaking requirements of Key Stages 1 & 2 English. In the Key Stage 1 & 2 Science requirements, it covers large areas of life processes, humans and other animals and variation and classification. In The Design & Technology requirements of Key Stages 1 & 2 it covers a large range from the design and making sections.

The children will design and sculpt their own owl out of clay to take home. The materials used are non-toxic paints, air dry clay and craft accessories. Overalls will be supplied; however children should be advised not to wear their “best” clothes.

The workshops are sessional and do not include a guided tour of the castle, or the use of the Education Centre for lunches. There are picnic tables available by the maze. Included in your pack is a Teachers' Castle Guide to assist you in the castle and we also offer a choice of trails on our website that are available for download. We hope that you also find time to enjoy our fun areas, such as the maze and grotto, and the playgrounds. The timings below are approximate and can vary depending on how the workshop progresses.

Groups of 25 – 40 will be held in one session – Please follow Timetable Group 1  
Groups of 41 – 60 will be held over 2 sessions – Please follow Timetable Groups 1 & 2  
Groups of 61 – 90 will be held over 3 sessions. – Please follow Timetable Groups 1, 2 & 3

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
10am Drive coach to Ticket Box, where <u>your</u> Education Leader will meet you and assist with your payment.	10am Drive coach to Ticket Box, where <u>your</u> Education Leader will meet you and assist with your payment.	10am Drive coach to Ticket Box, where <u>your</u> Education Leader will meet you and assist with your payment.
10:15 Escorted by Education staff to the education centre.	10:15 Education staff will liaise with Teacher in charge re workshop timings etc.	10:15 Education staff will liaise with Teacher in charge re workshop timings etc.
10:30 Session commences	10:30 Free Time	10:30 free time
11:25 Debrief	11:25 Arrive at centre  11:30 Session commences	12:25 Arrive at centre  12:30 session commences
11:30 Depart for Free time.	12:25 Debrief  12:30 Depart for free time.	1:25 Debrief  1:30 Depart.



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### **Background Information**

The day will include the opportunity to complete a self-guided Wildlife Trail through the grounds of Leeds Castle. The Trail is available to download free from our website, or we can print copies for a small charge. It has been written so that it can be done individually, in small groups, or for younger children, led by an adult.

Should the weather be inclement and a walk undesirable it can also be completed back at school as part of your follow up activities.

The session in the Education Centre will include a fun and interactive discussion about the various types and species of flora, fauna and animal life that can be found at Leeds Castle and throughout the English countryside.

During the session, there will be the opportunity for six children to dress up as an animal as we discuss the differences in their habitats, diets, reproduction and also what all animals share in common.

We will be discussing many different animals, and will often be led by the children but specific animals will include: Owls, Frogs, Badgers, Swans, Fish, Wasps, Humans!

There will also be an owl present, which will be in its cage in the room for the duration of the day. If appropriate the owl will be used as a comparison to a puppet to explain Alive and Not Alive.

The children will then be led through the creative, artistic section and make an owl from air dry clay to take back to school.

Comprehensive instructions are given verbally and visually, step by step, but with the opportunity for additional creativity for those who wish to.

All costumes, materials and tools are supplied.

The clay owls will be boxed up, and taken to the Park Shop for you to collect on your way out.



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### Follow-up ideas for back at school

#### Clay Sculptures

The clay used is Air Dry Clay and therefore the owls should be allowed to dry naturally, at room temperature, for a minimum of one week. After this time they can be painted by mixing dry powder paint or ready mix with PVA Glue.

It is very important that students do not add water.

Before they start to paint, students should consider the colours they are going to use for their work. Is their owl going to be true to life, or a fictional, colourful, maybe even a psychedelic owl?

Keep colours crisp by using one brush per colour.

#### Art & Design

- Design a different bird to sculpt or draw. Look carefully at the characteristics of the bird to make the most of beak, feathers etc.
- Thinking of habitats design and create a class wildlife area using different materials for the sculptures of different animals, trees and plants.
- Discuss the different mediums that can be used in sculpture.

#### Science

- Discuss how different animals reproduce. Create a table of 3 columns with the headings, eggs, seeds and live bearers. Cut out pictures of various living things (and some non living) and ask the children to place them in the right column.
- Animal A - Z game: Think of an animal beginning with each letter of the alphabet, and follow that with a food it would eat. (This can be played on the coach on the way back to school too).
- Create a life-cycle wheel for each animal found on the Wildlife Trail. This can be done individually or in groups.

#### ICT & English

- Ask the children to write one sentence about the owl they made during the workshop at Leeds Castle. Then ask them to think about the adjectives they could use to make the sentence better.
- Ask your pupils to bring in current magazines and as a group, discuss how many images of animals and plant life are used for marketing and advertising. What does an animal bring to a tea bag?

