



OUTDOOR LEARNING SESSIONS

Traditional Boundaries



Learning about Traditional Boundaries, includes dry stone walls and hedges. The session focuses on what boundaries are found within the landscape, the material and techniques used to create them, plus the history of them. The benefits to nature and wildlife of these boundaries will be discussed and demonstrated, allow for comparisons between the habitats.

Session can be adapted to suit KS1, KS2 and KS3. The sessions can be delivered at a traditional laid hedge or dry stone wall (DSW) habitat, depending on the location of the trip. If time allows on longer sessions, there will be two habitat/traditional boundaries comparisons.

Traditional Boundaries session

What is a traditional boundary

The children will learn what a DSW/traditionally laid hedge is. For DSW; studying the local geology, comparing the rocks and their physical properties and uses. For hedges; studying the local trees and plants, why they grow there and how they are fit for purpose. Comparisons will be made of different types of DSW and hedges across the country and why they differ in style depending on the location and their purpose as a boundary.

History of these boundaries

Through pictures, demonstrations and physical boundaries, children will learn the history of these boundaries. Including why they were built, when they became popular and how they are used within the 21st Century.

How you build a Dry Stone Wall

The children will have a go at building a DSW using a mock up kit. They will learn about the different parts and uses of the stones. How a dry stone waller chooses the right stone for each stage of the wall. The children will then be able to draw a diagram of a generic DSW, labelling it















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How to create a traditionally laid hedge

The children will study a traditionally laid hedge, identify the plants growing and see the technique in action. How a hedger creates a hedge though the different stages.

Benefits of a traditional boundary

Through hands on activities, trails, stories and minibeast hunting, the children will discover the natural benefits of a traditional boundary. The benefits to land owners will also be discussed, through local farmers and estate manager stories.

Restoring a traditional boundary

The final activities will be about how we look after current traditional boundaries and restore old ones. Depending on age of the students, they will be given a scenario to price up the cost of a new wall/hedge. This will link to a debate about the positive and negative impacts traditional boundaries have on the environment and if these boundaries are worth saving.

National Curriculum links

KS1

Working scientifically, animals, seasonal changes, living things and their habitats, locational awareness, spoken language, reading, writing, numbers, statistics

KS2

Working scientifically, animals, living things and their habitats, evolution and inheritance, rocks and soils, positive and negative impact on environment, locational awareness, place knowledge, geological skills and fieldwork, spoken language, reading, writing, numbers, statistics

For more information or to make a booking please contact: PendleHill@ErnestCookTrust.org.uk or 01200 420420

This lesson plan and some of the resources have been produced in partnership with the national Dry Stone Walling Association of Great









