

Managing King's Mill Reservoir to protect the wildlife

at Mill Water's heritage site



Pupils will learn what reservoirs are for and how they are valuable even when they no longer serve their original purpose. They will find out about how the water levels in King's Mill Reservoir fluctuate due to the water cycle. They will learn about the concept of eutrophication and other risks to the ecology of the reservoir.

They will gain an overview of the food chain relating to King's Mill Reservoir and how an indicator species can reveal if there is contamination in the food chain.

Managing the silt in the Reservoir is essential for a healthy ecosystem and also for the continued usage by the sailing club. Pupils will find out how Ashfield District Council has managed the silt in the reservoir, as well as what would happen if it was not managed.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- WC_L1TS** Managing King's Mill Reservoir to protect the wildlife
- WC_L1TN** Managing King's Mill Reservoir to protect the wildlife
- WC_L1HO1** Aerial view of King's Mill Reservoir and its surroundings
- WC_L1HO2** The water cycle
- WC_L1HO3** The food chain

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Learning activities include a classroom discussion which will draw out pupils' understanding of the relationship between living things and their environment, as well as where human interaction poses a threat.

Using key wildlife facts pupils will deliver a presentation about the ecology of the site, focussing on the food chain.

There is a fun practical activity to help children understand how the water levels are affected by the water cycle.

Finally, an in-depth writing activity will test pupils' knowledge and skill at writing an engaging and persuasive narrative about the rationale for the dredging works.

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LINKS TO THE CURRICULUM

SCIENCE

Living things and their habitats

Key Stage 1

- Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food

Key Stage 2

- Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things
- States of Matter
- Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature

Year 6

Pupils should be taught to:

- Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
- Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics

ENGLISH

Key Stage 1

- Writing for different purposes

Consider and discuss what they are going to write about before beginning by:

- Planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about
- Writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary
- Encapsulating what they want to say sentence by sentence

Key Stage 2

- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction sources
- In using non-fiction, pupils should know what information they need to look for before they begin and be clear about the task. They should be shown how to use contents pages and indexes to locate information

Plan their writing by:

- Identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own