Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Ecology Challenge

Programme Description

Length: Half-day – it is best when it is combined with another programme
Age Group: Suitable for National 3/4/5
Availability: Summer term
Price: £3.75/pupil. (£6.50/pupil for 2 programmes)

In this outdoor inquiry-based activity, students are asked to establish baseline information about a population of plant X and to determine how to monitor it using only equipment provided to survey the area. This workshop is about developing a real understanding of fieldwork sampling.

Learning Intentions

Students will:

- Work out for themselves how to estimate plant cover using basic equipment
- Be encouraged to think and talk about sampling

Curriculum Links

National 3/4/5 Biology:

3 a) Sampling techniques and measurement of abiotic and biotic factors
b) Evaluation of limitations and sources of error in the use of quadrats

What to expect

- An outdoor inquiry-based programme encouraging students to think for themselves: given non-standard equipment students will be encouraged to take measurements and devise methods to survey an area and develop better understanding of sampling techniques
- This programme takes place outdoors: it is important that all staff and students wear appropriate clothing and footwear

How to book

Bookings for all schools programmes are by telephone only.

Please call the Education Office on 0131 248 2937 (option 2 for Schools).

The office is open 9.00am – 4.30pm, Monday to Thursday and 9.00am – 4.00pm on a Friday.

Enquiries about this programme can be made by emailing education@rbge.org.uk

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