

Discovery – hands on

Key Stage 3 and 4

Learning objective

To discover and appreciate natural objects through close observations and touch
To talk about what was seen, to ask questions and share ideas.

Session content

This 40 minute session provide students the opportunity to discover and touch a whole range of natural objects like skins, skulls and bones most of which are on loan from H.M. Customs and Excise. This session can help students to develop social skills by working in groups and asking questions as well as improving their animal knowledge. Live animals may be included when possible however this can not be guaranteed.

A selection of items will be displayed but it is possible to theme the session to tie in with what you are doing at school. If you would like to theme the session please call on 01582 871330 to discuss your requirements at least 2 weeks before your visit.

Learning outcomes

This session is very flexible and learning outcomes will vary with each group.

Assessment opportunities

Students' can be assessed during the session through their verbal contributions and questioning.

Session suitability

This session is suitable for all students, including those with learning, physical, language and/or sensory difficulties and can be tailored to suit your group. This session encourages students to move around and touch the items which are mostly displayed on tables and benches. Accompanying adults can support groups by facilitating and advancing discussions. Some of the biofacts used are hairy so it is important to consider students with allergies. If this is not appropriate for your group, please let us know by calling 01582 871330.

When possible live animals are part of the session, although this cannot be guaranteed. Children and adults with poor immunity for any reason should avoid contact with these animals, as should pregnant women. It is very important that Zoo staff be aware of these individuals: please speak to the Education Officer before the session begins if this applies to anyone in your group.

Additional information

We would like to know in advance if any members of your class have learning, physical or sensory difficulties, allergies or illness which might affect their enjoyment of the session. It is usually possible to tailor the session should your group have any special requirements. Please call 01582 871330 at least 2 weeks in advance of your visit to discuss the best way to do this.



Suggested activities:

After the visit:

Please complete a feedback form (available at the session or from our website) and help us to improve the programme offered to schools.