

TEACHER NOTES

English: Reading

Comprehension: Reading for Information



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Contextual Summary

This pre-visit activity enables students to engage with a venue-relevant text, encouraging them to practise their reading and comprehension skills. The main focus of the task is reading for information, and being able to synthesise and summarise their understanding.

The task links to specific information about the features and biology of local species and other interesting facts relating to nature in the environs of the park. Students read a brief nature fact sheet on specimen trees that are found locally or originate abroad, and could

be seen during a visit to the park, and they answer several questions

on the text.

The resources available are relevant to students in key stage 1 (ideally

year 2).

There is a crossover with Science due to the topic contained within

the text.

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Task Implementation

This is a peripheral pre-visit resource, which could also be used post-visit if required. Ideally, students complete the activity before they visit. This enables students to not only practise their English skills in reading, but to also gain an enriched view of the subject and venue context as relating to local nature, both at the Robin Hill Country Park and on the Isle of Wight.

Students will therefore explore the venue with a view to identifying these species of tree and also with a greater desire for knowledge.

Ability Levels

There is one variant of this resource for key stage 1 (mixed ability).

Teachers can adapt the resources by using the variants from the key stages above (a similar resource is available for lower key stage 2).

Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Reading for meaning and information
- ▶ Interpretation skills
- ▶ Summarising skills

Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills are required to be taught and practised as per the National Curriculum (and Curriculum for Excellence) for key stage 1, English: *Reading: Comprehension*.

SUBJECT

English

UNIT

Reading: Comprehension

OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✓ Pre-Visit
- ✗ On-Site Activity
- ✓ Post-Visit

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Curriculum for Excellence

Applies to Resource numbered:

105041

Learning Opportunities

Pre-Visit

Completion of the English: Reading - Comprehension resource/s linked to this document:

Comprehension - Reading for Information (Robin Hill Country Park)

Resource ID:

105041 (KS1 mixed ability)

During the Visit

Activities could be completed on-site if a suitable space could be found, however this resource is designed as a classroom or pre-visit homework activity.

Post Visit

This task could be completed post-visit if required.

Alternatively, follow-up tasks could include:

- ▶ Whole class discussion about the responses to the questions

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- ✓ This resource enables students to gain an understanding of the specimen trees they can see at the venue; they are also practising their English reading skills in a real context as relating to local nature, both at the Robin Hill Country Park and on the Isle of Wight.
- ✓ Essentially, this task links with the school visit in a supporting way, allowing for the key skills of English to be practised (as well as the crossover Science aspects enabled by the text's topic) whilst engaging with all contextual aspects of the Robin Hill Country Park.

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ The task will prepare students for visiting the park and gardens as they will have gained an insight into the kind of nature attractions they could discover there, enriching their entire experience.
- ✓ Students will have practised their reading and interpretation skills.
- ✓ Students will have gained additional knowledge about many specimen trees in the park's vicinity (the number varies depending on the resource chosen); this will support their learning in Science (crosses over with aspects of units such as 'Plants' and 'Living Things and their Habitats' etc.).

Teachers could engage the students in many follow-up tasks, including:

- ▶ Whole class discussion about the responses to the questions
- ▶ Other English-focused follow-up tasks from Education Destination such as *Review and Comment*
- ▶ Project work about these species and others found on the Isle of Wight

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- ▶ Bespoke online itinerary builder
- ▶ Risk assessments
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