

Phoenix News

Phoenix Class report on their School trip to Shortenills Environmental Centre

On Monday 20th March Phoenix class went to Shortenills Environmental Centre. It was raining.... but they went anyway.

Mr Hook said “good luck,” and they got on the coach. They thought it was going to be a disaster because it was pouring with rain. They all sang on the coach. When they got there a lady called Alison led the way to a funny looking tent called a yurt. Shrenik said “It’s dry in the yurt.’ They got into groups and chose an animal name for their group.



Then they went on a mini beast hunt. Elena said “we went into the woods and we tried to find as many insects as we could find that were on the sheet. Then uh oh it started to rain but we just put up our hoods.” The Rabbit group thought they had found a new species of Beetle and called it The Killer as well as four worms, one centipede, two woodlice and one purple and black ground beetle. “It had purple on it’s back and it was massive,” said Arthur. “The Spider group looked under a log and found a snail and a tiny spider and a centipede,” said Luc. Cassie said “I loved the spider because it tickled my hand.” Harry from the Foxes group also found an insect lava. Then they did some maths using holly bush leaves. They had to count the number of prickles on the leaf and make a pictogram to show the most frequent number of prickles.









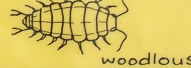


They had lunch and then went on the playground equipment. After lunch they collected things like sticks and leaves from the woods and transformed them into a symmetrical butterfly. Arlo said “we also made the life cycle of a butterfly and we used pasta shapes for different parts of the life cycle. I had a fun day.”

Anna enjoyed the trip and said “It was a very good school trip.”



Since returning from Shortenills, Phoenix class have been working hard writing reports about their trip and creating tally charts and bar charts of their minibeast findings and learning about microhabitats.



A guide to help identify grassland invertebrates				
no legs	shell		 snail	
	no shell	segments (sections)	less than 14 segments	 insect larva (eg. Fl
			more than 14 segments	 earthworm
		no segments		 slug
6-14 legs	more than 14 legs	one pair of legs on each segment		 centipede
		two pairs of legs on each segment		 millipede
	14 legs		 woodlouse	
	6 legs	body in one part		 harvestman
		body in two parts		 spider
	6 legs		insect please turn over	

