

LESSON PLAN

CREATED FOR TEACHERS BY EDEN'S EDUCATION TEAM

Lesson 3 – Researching Wildflower Meadows

Summary

We continue with the challenge set by the 'Whatifs' – investigate the invisible world of Paradise Pastures and use that information to persuade the 'Justsos' to manage it for the benefit of biodiversity.

In this session the children use the internet to research the benefits of growing wildflower meadows and how to go about creating one in Paradise Pastures. The type of enquiry that they predominantly focus on is 'Researching Using Secondary Sources'.

Outcomes for Lesson 3

- Use the internet to research what Paradise Pastures could become with a little help from the Justsos.
- Describe some of the benefits of growing Wildflower Meadows and find out how to create one.

Key Vocabulary: Biodiversity, habitat, pollination, wildflowers, meadow, research

General Resources

- Labelled bottles of clear tincture – 'Drink and Think juice' (one per group). This is fruit flavoured water.
- Small drink receptacles (e.g. cleaned /sterilised limpet shells) (1 per pupil)
- Working wall in the classroom - big map of Paradise Pastures upon which to pin their learnings.
- Pins, post-its, pens
- Class set of tablets/laptops/computers with internet access.

Begin the lesson in the classroom

(slide 1) Introduction

If the children need a reminder use **slides 2 and 3** to briefly review the overarching plan for the project, the meaning of the term 'biodiversity' and the challenges set by the Whatifs.

Ask the children what happened in the last session. Collect feedback.

They investigated the 'Invisible Underworld' and compared two locations in Paradise Pastures. They also looked for patterns, links and relationships in nature. Ask the children if they can remember any of the possible patterns they suggested? We will come back to these patterns in the next lesson.

For now, we are moving onto the 3rd of the challenges set by the Whatifs.

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Today's Session Outcomes

(slide 4) Tell the children that today, they are going to go online and find out more about what Paradise Pastures could become. Share outcomes for today's lesson.

Getting Started

(slide 5) This lesson focuses on the benefits of growing wildflower meadows for both humans and the rest of nature as well as how to grow one. This will involve a consideration of the importance of pollinators. With this in mind, to get them started complete the Explorify activity '[Friends of Flowers](#)'. This will lead to a conversation which will review pollination and the role that these invertebrates play and set them up nicely for the rest of the lesson.

Setting the Research Task

Share [slide 6](#) with the class. This is a photograph of a wildflower meadow. Then set the 2 research tasks using [slide 7](#). They can record their findings in a notebook.

[Slide 8](#) contains lots of links to useful websites to get them started if they need help, but have a discussion about how to use the search engine to find the kind of information they are after – what key words would they use?

Explain that the Whatifs have sent them a 3rd and final tincture to help them with their research. Hand out the 'Drink and Think Juice'. Explain that this will help them research carefully and *see clearly* though the vast amounts of information on the internet – especially as we can't always rely upon information we find online. The children drink the tincture and then crack on with the research task. The teacher circulates and supports.

Summing up

(slide 9) Bring the class back together. Wow! – there was so much to learn about wildflower meadows and wild places.

Ask the children to have a discussion within their group, with each child sharing what they found out. As a group ask them to record 3 pieces of information that they found out on 3 separate post-it notes. The first post-it should help to answer question 1, the second should help to answer question 2 and the third should contain another piece of information that they found interesting or that surprised them.

Ask the children to stick the notes on the wall. Go through them, sharing key information to build a fuller picture to the answers to question 1 and 2 from [slide 7](#).

Explain to the class that these notes will come in handy when you create a piece of work about persuading the Justsos to leave paradise pastures to grow more wild and look after it for the benefit of nature.

(slide 10) Refer back to the lesson outcomes.