



Urban Habitat Activities

Things you may need:

- Notebook and pencil
 - Margarine tubs with clear lids
 - Cardboard
 - Magnifying glass
 - Plastic gloves
 - Quadrats
 - Hand lenses
 - Magnispectors
 - Identification key
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- Count the number of different birds visiting the school playing field after break time. What are they doing? What are they eating?
 - Observe birds visiting the class feeding station/ bird table at home. What do they like to eat?
 - Bug hunting in the garden – Prepare some margarine tubs with clear lids, by adding a little soil and a few stones from the garden. Look for the minibeasts in cool, damp places under stones, on plants in the soil, or on the compost heap. Collect them by using a piece of card for them to crawl onto and put them in the tub. Use a magnifying glass to watch them. Draw them and describe what they look like, how they move etc. Don't forget to put them back where you found them afterwards.
 - Check out a plant for minibeasts, e.g. a stinging nettle (don't forget to wear gloves!). How many different minibeasts live on one plant? Do the same minibeasts live on the same plants?
 - Check out the trees in your neighbourhood. What shape are the trees in your street, how old are they, what species?

- On the edge: How welcoming are roadside verges to wildlife? Investigate a varied verge, e.g. short grass near the pavement, short and taller wild grasses and flowers, ditches and a hedge. What lives where and why?
- Using keys in the local environment on a site near school grounds. Take the children on a walk using hand lenses. They must choose 5 different plants and animals they come across along their walk to identify using the identification key. Draw the things chosen and write about them.