Plants & Animals

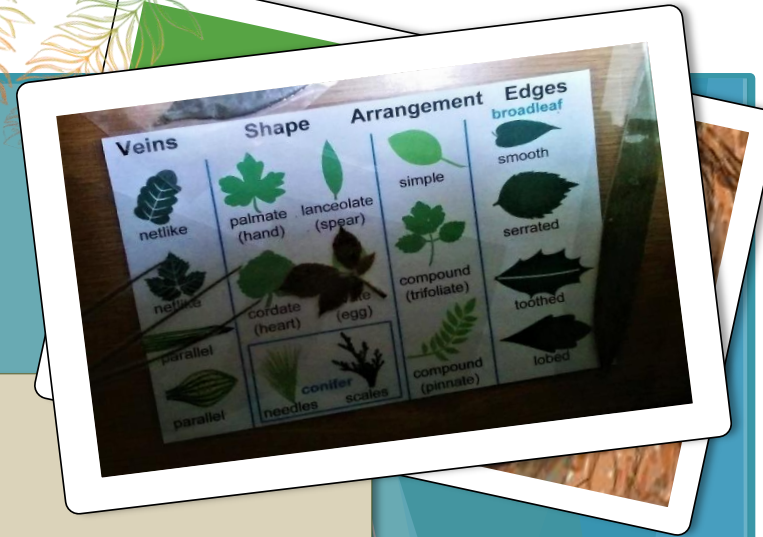Discover how plants and animals help and harm each other

Year 3-4

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

✓ **All pupils** will understand that plants and animals interact in many different ways

✓ **Most pupils** will be able to remember some key identification terms for plants e.g. conifer/broadleaf, deciduous/evergreen, leaf shape, etc.

✓ **Some pupils** will be able to use dichotomous keys to make identifications

Session Outline:

The session begins by discussing plant categories (algae, moss, ferns, cone plants, and flowering plants) and introducing dichotomous keys. Pupils will learn about complex plant parts, including seeds, and guess how seeds disperse, especially those that rely on animals. In small groups, they will identify real leaves using botany terms and a dichotomous key. The session then shifts to animals, using skulls to illustrate herbivore, omnivore, and carnivore diets. Pupils will also explore how plants defend against animals and how some use animals for protection.

Curriculum Links

Science

Plants

Animals, including humans

Working scientifically

Living things and their habitats

COLCHESTER ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Please note, no live animals are used in this session.