

Science in the Wild

Find out about science field biologists use in the wild

Year 7-9

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

- ✓ **All pupils** will understand the importance of biodiversity and how different methods can be used to measure it
- ✓ **Most students** will understand how biodiversity can be lost and how it can be restored and maintained
- ✓ **Some students** will be able to think about how techniques used in South Africa could be applied to other locations to measure biodiversity

Session Outline:

The session begins with an introduction to UmPhafa, a private South African nature reserve supported by Colchester Zoological Society. It covers how the land was restored from farmland by reversing habitat fragmentation and the effects on wildlife. The session also explores biodiversity, its importance, and how rangers monitor it using techniques such as mark-recapture to estimate animal populations. The final part of the session is a circus of activities aimed at providing the information needed for the students to calculate the biodiversity of the reserve; just like the real rangers on UmPhafa!



Curriculum Links

Science

Relationships in an ecosystem

Working Scientifically

Experimental Skills and Investigations
Analysis and Evaluation
Measurement