



High Weald Hero Activity Card

Heathland Hunt



Equipment: Heathlands in the Weald leaflets - download from www.highweald.org, copies of lower section of this Activity Card (1 for each child), pencils/cameras.

Time: 20 - 30 minutes

Location: An area of heathland

Audience: KS 1 & 2

An investigative activity to help children learn about what can be found in heathland

Activity Description: Take the children to a patch of heathland. Share Heathlands in the Weald leaflets and lower section of this Activity Card. Discuss which plants and animals might live where the children are sitting. Allow children time to carefully investigate their surroundings, ticking off each item when it has been found. Bring the group back together and encourage children to discuss findings.

High Weald Teaching Point: Heathland is one of the many valuable habitats in the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Ashdown Forest, at the heart of the High Weald AONB, is the largest area of lowland heath in the South-East. The Forest has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to its unique ecology. Nearly two thirds of Ashdown Forest's 6,500 acres (2,500 hectares) are heathland, amounting to 2.5% of the UK's extent of this rare habitat.

Heathland Hunting - use this list to help you investigate heathland. Tick off each item that you find. Use the Heathlands in the Weald leaflet to help you. Maybe you could draw or take a photo of each item.

Can you spot some...

- Bell Heather
- Ling
- Gorse (careful, it's prickly!)
- Scots Pine
- Bracken
- Mini-beasts



Additional Task - how about finding something...

- Delicate
- Rough
- Old
- Something you've never seen before



Check Out the Learning Zone at www.highweald.org