

## Tips for successful outdoor sessions

Teaching sessions outside does require careful preparation and planning. Below are some tips that you might find helpful when thinking about taking your pupils outside.

- Ideally visit the site prior to the visit.
- At the start of the session establish a clear boundary within which the children are allowed to wander.
- Establish clear expectations for behaviour prior to the trip, especially regarding following instructions.
- Ensure you have an appropriate number of adults to support children with their learning.
- Encourage the children to really look and notice what is in their environment – this is often something that needs to be explicitly taught depending on how much experience the pupils have of being outdoors in a learning context.
- Allow the children to touch but teach them to be gentle – plants and creatures should not be hurt/damaged.
- Warn children that some plants/insects can sting.
- Teach the children a signal for when you want to re-gather as a group, this saves your voice.
- In public spaces use quiet voices if there are lots of others around.

