

# BeWILDerwood

Explore  
Discover  
Understand



## Marshland WILD-Spy - Observational activity in the marshland habitat.

How many plants and animals can you see in this habitat? Keep a look out as you make your way around the area and note it down on your worksheet. You can include a boat ride as part of the trip and walk along the treacherous trail marsh walk looking out at the natural habitat. There is also a good viewing platform at BeWILDerBoat junction, near the Bizarre Bazaar at the front of the park. Photograph the habitat and use in support of your work when back at school.

**Thoughts:** Why not combine this activity with the Woodland WILD-Spy activity and compare the two habitats?

**Worksheet included?** Yes.

## Children's learning objectives

- To visually investigate a natural marshland habitat
- To investigate, identify and record the animals and plants found in a marshland habitat
- To state and explain the locations where each animal and plant was found
- To review other children's work and say what they think and feel about it.

## What you will need

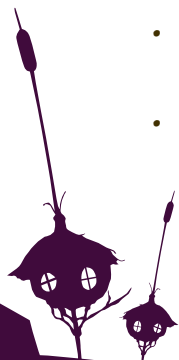
- Each child will need the supporting worksheet for this activity
- A camera may come in handy to record locations and particular animals and plants. You can then use these pictures to help review the activity back at school.

## Groupings

This activity can be completed individually (with accompanying adults for help).

## Activity

- The ideal area for this activity is between BeWILDerBoat Junction and the Snack Shack Jetty, including both the Treacherous Trail and the boat rides
- Hand out worksheets to all children explaining the WILD-Spy activity. Talk about the types of plants and animals you all expect to find
  - Ask the children to investigate the natural habitat around them, through observation from the walkways and jetty viewpoints



- Consider a boat ride as part of the activity – Children can get on a boat at either BeWILDerBoat Junction or the Snack Shack Jetty. This allows children to view the marshland habitat from the water – just like a Boggle!
- Try to keep as quiet as possible and listen really carefully. Can the children hear anything before they see it?
- Move around the given area and use the worksheet to record any animals and plants the children have seen. Look carefully in case any Boggles are peeping out of the marshes! Remember, even if the children have seen the same thing more than once, they may only record it the once on their worksheet.

### **Review the activity**

- Add up your points from what you have seen and mark on the worksheet
- Gather together and discuss as a group what you have all seen. Talk briefly about where plants and animals were found and how this differed between locations. How many points did each child get? Who saw the most things?
- Was there anything spotted which wasn't on the worksheet?

### **Further activities for the classroom**

- If you want to discuss habitats further you could ask the children why they think Mildred likes to live in this sort of habitat? Discuss as a class or in small groups.
- Make a tally of all plants and animals identified by the whole class. What were the most and least commonly seen? Compare this to what everyone may have expected to find. How was it different and how was it the same?
- Using any photographs taken, make a visual display showing which plants and animals were identified
- If both the Marshland and Woodland WILD-spy activities have been completed, compare the two habitats. What were the main differences between the two habitats? Was this different or similar to what everyone was expecting?
- Consider and discuss the impact that BeWILDerwood's development has had on the natural habitat. Did anyone notice anything during your visit? Is there anything you think BeWILDerwood could do to be even kinder to nature?

### **Points to consider**

- **The BeWILDerboats** - Adhere to all instructions given by the Twiggle Team boat drivers. BeWILDerBoats take up to 11 passengers and will be one-way trips only. Passengers must stay seated at all times throughout the ride and children must not ride without an accompanying adult.

The Twiggle Team would love to hear about what the children found on their adventures, so feel free to let us know if you've had any ideas to nurture and improve the marshland habitats. We may even publish some of your ideas on our website!



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I-spy from my BewILDDerboat and along the Treacherous Trail...

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boggles     | <input type="checkbox"/> Moorhen            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brambles    | <input type="checkbox"/> Nettles            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulrushes   | <input type="checkbox"/> Oak tree           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterflies | <input type="checkbox"/> Otter              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coot        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pine tree          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crocklebogs | <input type="checkbox"/> Rosie the Robin    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duck        | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver birch tree  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thornyclod spiders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heron       | <input type="checkbox"/> Treecreeper bird   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kingfisher  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water vole         |

Anything you've spotted which isn't listed above \_\_\_\_\_

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