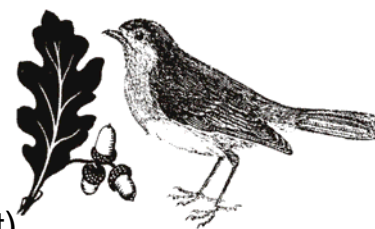


Four Seasons Trail



Duration: 1½ hours approx. - max group size 30
National Curriculum - **Key Stage EY 1 / 2**
Available: April – September (weather dependant)

The Visit Aims

- To foster respect for the environment and for the variety of fauna and flora to be found throughout the seasons.
- To give an understanding of how the seasons affect the environment eg Spring – growth, Winter – hibernation.
- To give first hand experience of investigating a variety of plants, seeds and leaves and to identify parts of plants, discuss their functions and their uses.
- To help children to understand the life cycle of plants.
- To investigate different habitats; the different homes of plants, insects, birds and animals.
- To give an opportunity to identify some of the more common species of plants, invertebrates, bird and animal life to be found in the various seasons.
- To arouse the children's awareness and curiosity of the environment.

The Visit

After discussing the importance of the 'Seasons' and particularly the season relative to the visit, a brief introduction will be given outlining the features of the country park and some of those which will be seen on the walk.

The children's existing knowledge of the environment and variety of life will be explored.

Along the route seasonal items can be collected – leaves, seeds etc.

A walk through the parkland will demonstrate the seasonal fauna and flora looking at different habitats and covering topics such as parts of a plant, why, how and where they grow.

The group will stop at intervals to observe and discuss relevant 'talking points'. These may be types of trees, ponds, animal homes etc.

Towards the end of the visit, the group will play the popular 'Survival Game' which demonstrates what seeds need to grow and how some will survive and some won't.

Four Seasons Trail



Background Information

Croxteth Hall & Country Park was the former residence of the Earls of Sefton. After the death of the last Earl in 1972 the Hall and surrounding estate was bequeathed to the City of Liverpool. The Country Park now consists of 215 hectares (530 acres) of pasture, gardens and parkland and is host to the largest area of woodland within the Liverpool City boundary.

The estate grounds include Home Farm, a Walled Garden as well as original outbuildings, cottages and lodges etc.

The park is also home to Liverpool's first nature reserve now called Croxteth Local Nature Reserve, though originally designated as Mull Wood in the early 80's.

Croxteth offers a vast array of habitats with a wide variety fauna and flora. Numerous ponds, wetland and even a river are all contained within the park making it the ideal 'outdoor classroom'.

Visit Resources

- Any equipment required for the visit will be provided.
- Optional pencils and clipboards.
- The popular 'Survival Game'.

Visit Notes

Supervision - For every visit it is necessary to have sufficient adults with your group to comply with your LEA outdoor guidelines.

Risk Assessments - are available for all guided visits.

Timing - Most visits last for approx 1.5 hours. Please refer to the notes provided for your visit for times and starting points. We suggest you arrive 15 minutes in advance of your visit to allow for parking, payment, toilet trips, etc

Toilets - are in the courtyard by the Café.

Parking - The main entrance and coach park is off Muirhead Avenue East. The coach park is about 300m from the Hall. You may be advised to park near the hall only with prior arrangement.

Charge - £3.80 per child, (minimum charge £95.00 per group).

Payment - please make cheque payment to **Croxteth Hall & Country Park**.

Clothing - please ensure your party wears outdoor clothing and footwear appropriate for the weather and time of year.

Further Information about this and other visits are detailed on our 'Learning Opportunities' website www.croxteth.co.uk/education

Customer Feedback Forms - please fill in and return our feedback survey sheets - we welcome evaluation and constructive comments on your visit.

Liverpool City Council Parks & Greenspaces

**Ranger Interpretation Service, Croxteth Hall & Country Park, Croxteth Hall Lane,
Liverpool L12 OHB**

Tel 0151 233 6910 (Gen Office), 0151 233 6912/6915 (RIS Team) fax 0151 233 6906