



Planning a Visit to ECH

Risk Assessment

Before your trip, visit the site so that you can complete an appropriate risk assessment in accordance with your own risk assessment procedure. Familiarise yourself with the area in order to be confident on the route to get there and to be able to set clear boundaries for the children to stay within.

What to bring

Ensure you have everything necessary for the planned activities. Children should have clothing appropriate for the weather. In case of emergencies make sure you have a first aid kit, fully charged mobile phone, list of medical details, emergency contacts and a copy of your risk assessment.

Review behaviours

Spend time with the group before your trip going over appropriate behaviours for outdoor learning; boundaries, meeting points, lack of toilets, and everyone's expectations for the session. This can have the extra effect of sparking excitement and anticipation!

Introduce concepts

Take the time to introduce any new concepts that your planned activities will involve before you go outdoors. Once you get into the woods there is a lot of new stimulation, so this will limit the amount of new information to take in, as well as providing more time on site to get stuck into the hands-on activities!

Be prepared to be flexible!

Remember that the beauty of spending time outdoors is the unpredictability of what you may find. Allowing your session to be inspired and shifted by things that you discover or see on the day will provide a richer experience of the wonderful natural world.