



Activity 10 Active Links

An active game outdoors following classroom based research to reinforce learning about iconic Scottish species.

Curriculum area(s)	Resources needed	Preparatory activity
<p>Expressive arts Art & design, drama.</p> <p>Science Planet Earth – biodiversity and interdependence.</p> <p>Health and wellbeing Physical education, physical activity and sport.</p>	<p>Outdoor space with hard surface for chalking.</p> <p>Masks or props to represent species. See SNH magazine <i>The Nature of Scotland</i> issues online (Kids Only! p58). Sea eagle face mask, information and crossword puzzle (Spring 2009) www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/SNHMagazine/A249350.pdf Beaver face mask, information and crossword puzzle (Autumn 2008) http://www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/SNHMagazine/Contents-Autumn-2008/kids.pdf Wildcat information (Summer 2008) www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/SNHMagazine/SNHMagazine-Summer2008.pdf Red squirrel fact sheet www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/education/squirrelfactsheet.pdf Red squirrel poster and food chain cards www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/education/poster/squirrelposter.pdf Red squirrel booklet (older primary and secondary pupils) www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/publications/naturallyscottish/redsquirrel.pdf</p>	<p>Research the 4 species Use the links provided, and create a series of facts about each. These may relate to the following themes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Type of animal (bird, mammal). 2) Diet carnivore, herbivore or scavenger. 3) Habitat 4) Threats to survival. 5) Whether reintroduced to Scotland or present but scarce. (Language and themes can be simplified or developed depending upon the level of the group). <p>Prepare questions relating to these facts for each species.</p>

Main activity description

Sea Eagles, Beavers, Wildcats, & Red Squirrels
Divide your group into these 4 species groups. Write the facts discovered by the class preparatory research within large separate chalked circles spaced apart in the playground, around each theme. There may be several for each theme. Create another separate circle with 'extinct' written in it.

Ask the pupils to stand in team lines behind a chalked line. Tell them they have to make the right survival choices or will become extinct.

Now ask a series of pre-prepared questions/ instructions relating to the above e.g. 'Find your habitat'. Team players take turns to run to the correct circle. If anyone goes to the wrong circle they are sent to the 'extinct' space, and are out of that game. It is more fun if the pupils wear masks (or tails for Wildcat and Red squirrel) they have made representing each species. At the end of the questions, see which species team has the fewest 'extinct'.

Is there any overlap – do any of the species share their circle with another?

Challenge the pupils to devise their own game. Can they use role play to show what threats to survival each species faces?



Extension activities

Red squirrel food chain activity described in fact sheet & poster
See resources.

Sources & further inspiration

See Activity 13 *Mapping New Arrivals* for links to further information on the Sea Eagle and Beaver.

