

Navan Education Centre Trail

Grass Meadow

General Information

A grass meadow is traditionally a field with grass and wildflowers. It provides a brilliant habitat for birds, mammals and insects and gives colour and scent in summer. There are around 900 species of wildflowers in Ireland and hundreds of species of grass, including oats (porridge), wheat (bread) and barley (beer). The number and variety of wildflower is decreasing because of intensive farming and sprays.

- Equipment**
- Clipboard
 - Pencil, Bag
 - Magnifying glass
 - Paper
 - A hula hoop

Activity 1



The Dandelion
 The word "dandelion" comes from the French "dent de lion", which means tooth of the lion. Why is this?

Sketch the leaf here.

Activity 2



Take a bag and try to find one of each of the following items. Tick them off when you get them

Litter

Yarrow

White Clo-

Wild

Grass

Red Clover

Sham-

Activity 3

Throw your hoop on the ground. If the plants are present record it on the grid. Then repeat 10

Throw No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Buttercup											/10
Daisy											/10
Plantain											/10
Dandelion											/10
Grass											/10

Activity 4

Plot a chart or graph in your Maths copy to show how many of each species were found.



Grass



Buttercup



Plantain



Daisy



Dandelion

Curriculum Links

Science Strand; Living things **Geography** Strand; Env. awareness and care **Maths** Strand; Number, Data **English** Strand; Competence & confidence using language
 Paul O'Donnell "Wild Teaching Cross-curricular Lessons Outdoors for Agoraphobic Teachers"