

Squirrel Class Visit to The Look Out Discovery Centre, Bracknell Wednesday 28th June 2023

Squirrel Class (Years 1 and 2) enjoyed a fantastic and highly engaging visit to The Look Out Discovery Centre in Bracknell, a centre designed to encourage children to explore, investigate and enjoy learning through science, technology, engineering, art and maths (STEAM). From the moment they arrived, the children were excited and curious, enthusiastically exploring the interactive exhibits and applying their learning in a real-world context.

'Bugs and Beasties' Workshop

A highlight of the visit was the 'Bugs and Beasties' workshop, an interactive session that linked closely to the children's Science learning.

During the workshop, pupils:

- Learned about food chains, habitats and animal classification
- Handled resources and took part in discussion and observation
- Participated in an exciting bug hunt in the forest, applying knowledge in a natural environment

The session encouraged enquiry, careful observation and rich discussion, helping children deepen their understanding through hands-on experience.

Exploring the Discovery Centre and Outdoors

In addition to the workshop, the children had time to:

- Explore the many interactive exhibitions throughout the centre
- Investigate scientific concepts through play and experimentation
- Enjoy physical activity and exploration in the large woodland play area

These experiences encouraged independence, teamwork and curiosity, while reinforcing the idea that learning can be active, enjoyable and exploratory.

Behaviour and Attitudes

Throughout the visit, Squirrel Class behaved impeccably. The children listened carefully, followed instructions responsibly and showed enthusiasm, curiosity and respect at all times. They represented the school extremely well and made all the adults very proud.

KSI Curriculum Links

The visit strongly supported Key Stage 1 Science and Geography, particularly:

Science – Animals, Including Humans

- Identifying and classifying animals
- Recognising different habitats and food chains
- Observing living things closely

Working Scientifically

- Asking questions
- Making observations
- Exploring and investigating

Geography

- Understanding natural environments
- Exploring outdoor spaces
- Making links between learning and the real world

The visit also supported Personal Development by encouraging collaboration, confidence and independence.

Impact

The visit to The Look Out Discovery Centre provided high-quality curriculum enrichment that deepened pupils' scientific understanding through first-hand, practical learning. Pupils were highly engaged during the 'Bugs and Beasties' workshop and confidently applied their knowledge of habitats, food chains and classification in a real-world setting. The combination of expert-led learning, interactive exhibits and outdoor exploration supported curiosity, vocabulary development and secure retention of knowledge. Behaviour and attitudes were exemplary throughout the visit, demonstrating pupils' readiness to learn, strong self-regulation and enthusiasm for discovery. The experience clearly enhanced the curriculum and contributed positively to pupils' personal development.

Child Voice

"I liked looking for bugs in the forest."

"I learned that animals eat different things."

"My favourite part was the bug hunt."

