

RIVER / STREAM STUDIES DAY

The programme will involve a day studying a stream from source to sink. Students will collect data about its size, shape and flow using scientific equipment and study some animals living there using an identification key. After an alfresco lunch, students will play a game to learn what happens in the stream as the water goes around a bend.

Students and staff will be expected to come dressed for a day outdoors wearing wellies. They will need to bring their own packed lunch.

Braeside will provide the equipment, teaching input and recording sheets. The site has been risk assessed and copies can be supplied.



10.00 - 10.30

The group will be met with the Braeside staff at the site. An introduction using key words begins the day along with an explanation of the activities and the equipment that will be used. Observation of the spring as a source of the stream will begin the practical element of the day.



Students study a stream at Drew's Pond Woods and need to be organised into groups of 6-8 each with a supervising adult prior to the day. Lunch is eaten on the old cricket field next to the hospital.

11.00 - 1.30

Students choose a stretch along the stream and collect data on the following:

1. Water velocity (speed)
2. Stream profile
3. Invertebrates living in the stream
4. Water infiltration near the stream and on the top field

After lunch the students play a game involving a rope to show how erosion, transportation and deposition occur around a bend in the stream.

Students change wellies and clothes as necessary to get back on the coach.



This day has proven very popular with school groups who enjoy the hands on approach to working in a natural environment, whilst developing their measuring and recording skills, and getting wet and muddy!