



**Biodiversity
and
Lifecycles**

Curriculum links/skills

Biodiversity
Lifecycles
Observation
Classification
Care for Wildlife

**Mid to
upper
primary
ideally**

Link to video lesson: <https://youtu.be/GHDh5E6jSrs>

Resources needed

Area where there are a variety of trees, bushes and plants such as school grounds, park or garden.

Blossom and Catkin ID/Spotter sheet from The Woodland Trust

Rainbow strips printed on card or laminated with a double-sided tape along length

Activity Description

Take a look at the trees in your area. Can you spot those in flower - not just those that showy colourful and scented blossom but those that are green and less obvious too?

Which ones are the insects visiting, which are shedding pollen into the wind?

Watch insects feeding on the nectar of a flower, gather some pollen from a catkin.

Spot the male and female parts of the flower or the pollen bearing male and the smaller sticky female flower on most wind pollinated plants.

Collect fallen blossom, catkins, petals and leaves, and stick to double-sided tape on a rainbow strip matching the colours as accurately as possible.

Reflect on which colours nature uses for blossom (attractive to insects) and which for wind pollinated flowers.

Mount all rainbow strips into an arc to form a rainbow.

Safety considerations

- Set boundaries for area for working in
- Only collect material that is lying on the ground, no longer attached to a living thing
- Take care not to pick anything that will sting, is spiky or poisonous
- Tree pollen will cause hayfever sufferers to react.

