

EVOLUTION OF THE SCOTTISH HIGHLAND LANDSCAPE.

THIS TEACHERS' SHEET aims to let you know what is involved in your chosen activity so that you can prepare your class for the day and help them to get as much out of their visit as possible. Trips and visits away from school are expensive, but if planned carefully, a visit to the Park can provide a basis for a wide range of activities across all aspects of learning. Linking your visit to activities at school, before and afterwards, will really strengthen the learning experience for your class and will make the most of the time and money spent during your visit to Highland Wildlife Park.

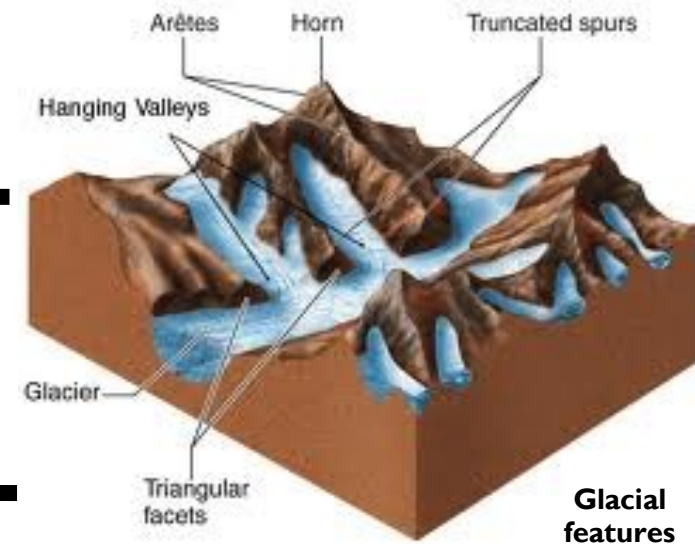
PRIOR TO YOUR VISIT Teachers can visit the Park free of charge to help with lesson planning and to make sure you know the layout and facilities available at the Park. Please contact the education officer on [01540 651981](tel:01540651981) to arrange your free visit. If you require any help or more information prior to your visit also contact the Education Officer on hwpeducation@rzss.org.uk.

Remember that a visit to the Highland Wildlife Park can offer a great learning platform for many different subjects and topics such as English, Art and Current affairs—be flexible and imaginative in your approach to your visit and how you use your visit to develop the key capabilities in your class.

DURING YOUR VISIT to the Park your class will have the chance to look at many animals that once lived in the forests of Scotland, as well as seeing animals from around the world which live in the tundra. We will discuss what are the causes that have shaped the Scottish landscape and the effects upon the animals that once lived in the UK and the reasons why the animals have disappeared. There will also be a discussion on re-wilding and re-introduction. In the Scottish countryside. There will be the chance to ask questions as well as lots of interesting facts, stories and explanations from our education officers.

Things to encourage your class to think about to **HELP YOU GET THE MOST FROM YOUR VISIT**

- Look at glacial features and beware of the different features., in the Cairngorm National Park.
- Look for glacial features in the Cairngorm National Park like the Lairig ghru. Visit the roche moutonnée outside Dulain Bridge and the drumlins in Drumochter Pass.
- What is Doggerland?
- What animals were around during the last ice age?
- What is the Cheddar Man and the Red Lady of Paviland?
- What evidence is there supporting what life was like around the ice age.
- How did the humans live and survive during the ice age?
- What is pre-historic rock art? What animals do you recognise on the cave walls?



OTHER TOPICS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST

- What are peoples perceptions of predators?
- What is the point of zoos?
- Zoos and conservation
- Animals at risk
- Evolution
- Animal observation and enrichment
- Polar bear evolution and adaptation
- Skulls, teeth and diet
- Wildlife crime
- Enclosure design
- Biodiversity of the Scots Caledonian pine forest



Giant Irish Elk



Ice age animals of Europe

ACTIVITIES FOR THE CLASSROOM - BEFORE OR AFTER YOUR VISIT

- What is tundra? Where would you find it now?
- What can cause whole ecosystems to change from one to another? What can we learn from the past about the future?
- Is global warming a good or bad thing to happen?
- How can we reduce global warming?
- What can you do to look after the habitat, the environment and the world?
- Should we re-introduce past / extinct animals back to the countryside?



HISTORY

- Create your own rock art. Similar to Lascaux in France or Creswell Crags.
- Research the animals of the past, from ice age to recent extinctions and the reasons why they became extinct.

Links

Creswell Crags Museum, www.creswell-craggs.org.uk <http://www.antiquity.ac.uk/projgall/bahn300/>
Natural History Museum, London, www.nhm.ac.uk
Lascaux Caves <http://www.grands-sites-archeologiques.culture.fr/carte.php>
Chauvet Cave <http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/chauvet/en/index.html>



ENGLISH

- Write a story from the perspective of ice age people, their life and the animals that surrounded them.
- How would you feel about sharing the countryside with potentially more interesting animals, like the lynx, wolf and the bear?
- Should we try and turn back the hands of time in the countryside by re wilding, is it worth while?
- Look at the myths and legends surrounding the animals and the forest of Scotland.
- Read books by Jean Marie Auel, her books the Earth's Children collection, is a series of novels set in prehistoric Europe that explores interactions of Cro-Magnon people with Neanderthals.



RESOURCES

http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/somerset/hi/people_and_places/newsid_9392000/9392086.stm
http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2003/11/1103_031103_britainrepopulation2.html
<http://www.treesforlife.org.uk/>
<http://www.snh.org.uk/publications/on-line/geology/scotland/after.asp>

VOCABULARY - encourage pupils to investigate what these words mean. They will then be able to understand and take in more on the day of their visit.

Ice age
Glacial features
Doggerland
Pleistocene
Extinction
Caledonian pine forest
Deforestation
Habitat fragmentation
Re-wilding
Re-introduction



Deforestation