

Dead wood: small habitats inside a forest

A fallen branch can look like the end of a story. In a forest, dead and decaying wood can also provide places used by living organisms.

Purpose

Explore the topic by separating observations, sourced information and questions. This activity can be completed at a desk; it does not require intervention in a habitat or heritage site.

You will need: paper, a pencil and the reading source listed on the next page.

Activity steps

1. Draw several stages of a fallen piece of wood.
2. List possible users as questions to investigate.
3. Separate habitat observations from safety decisions.
4. Record details without moving wood or disturbing its occupants.

Name / group: Date: Source:

For any visit, follow the relevant site guidance. Observe without capturing, moving or feeding wildlife, or touching historic surfaces.

Your learning record

1. My sketch, diagram or direct observation

2. Information I checked in the source

3. My interpretation and unanswered questions

4. My next learning step

Reading: Woodland Trust — Woodland habitats

[Open the reading source](#)

Prepared by Living Heritage. An educational exercise, not a scientific report, permit or professional intervention plan.