

TEACHER NOTES

Biology

Evolution: Species Extinction

Contextual Summary

This science resource enables students to engage with the factors that contribute to the extinction of a species.

Students will explore the information about the dinosaurs available in the museum before hypothesising as to the reasons for their extinction at the end of the Cretaceous period.

The resource is aimed at key stage 4 students of biology.

Task Implementation

It is suggested to teachers that they introduce the topic before the visit, so the subject matter is familiar and they have an understanding of extinction and how it has affected various species throughout evolutionary time.

Students would benefit from looking at other species of animal that became extinct and identified differences in characteristics from the dinosaurs and reasons or possible theories surrounding their extinction.

If prepared, students should be keen to find the answers to the questions, and may have already researched / guessed at some of the possible answers in their suggested pre-visit research.

This task could also be adapted to be used as a follow-up task to compound learning, or perhaps as a pre-visit research task.

Ability Levels

There are 2 versions of this resource, one each of low and high ability for key stage 4 students of biology. These could be adapted further by teachers if required, i.e. for SEN. For example, students could be tasked with giving fewer or briefer responses, or responding to areas that interest them the most, or perhaps work in teams to find the answers.

Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Observation and identification of extinction causal factors
- ▶ Hypothesising as to reasons for extinction at the end of the Cretaceous period
- ▶ Summarising skills

Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills are required to be taught and practised as per the exam board requirements for key stage 4 biology.



SUBJECT

Biology

UNIT

Evolution

OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✓ Pre-Visit
- ✓ On-Site Activity
- ✓ Post-Visit
- ✗ Peripheral Task



30-45 Mins

APPLICABILITY



KS4



S4-S5

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS



Applies to Resources numbered:

1 0 2 2 5 1
1 0 2 2 5 2

Learning Opportunities

Pre-Visit

This resource could be used as a pre-visit research task, but is designed to work in conjunction with the information discoverable at the museum.

During the Visit

Completion of the resource/s linked to this document:

Evolution: Species Extinction

Resource ID: **102251** (KS4 higher ability), **102252** (KS4 lower ability)

Post Visit

This resource could be used as a follow-up task to compound learning or evidence their level of understanding after the visit.

Other follow-up tasks could include:

- ▶ Whole class discussion about the responses to the questions
- ▶ Groups presenting back their collated responses to the class
- ▶ Projects on the extinction of a particular species

Enrichment Opportunities

Students will experience a museum-environment and be able to investigate aspects of extinction in relation to the dinosaurs and the End-Cretaceous mass extinction event.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to demonstrate their ability to develop an understanding of theories and hypotheses surrounding the extinction of species, including the dinosaur.

For further details visit www.edudest.uk and click:

- ▶ *Resource Finder* - to locate specific resources identified above
- ▶ *Venue Finder* - to learn more about education at this venue
- ▶ *Subject Finder* - to find other relevant Isle of Wight venues

