Children learn how we can help nature through the creation of nature reserves.

Nature Watch

Keywords **nature reserve visit • follow-up display • weather • effect on environment • diorama • headlines**

1. Look at News About Threatened Habitats

Create a discussion around the need for nature reserves. Build up to the subject by sharing a few news headlines about threatened habitats with the children. You can do this either through newspaper cuttings, or screengrabs you have made from online newspapers. Elicit the common element among your articles: loss of land for nature.

Tip for Year 4: Create simple, colourful "news headlines" related to nature loss. Use large pictures and simple sentences like "Trees Are Being Cut Down" or "Animals Need New Homes."

2. Learn What a Nature Reserve Is

Introduce the idea of nature reserves as places people “set aside” for nature’s homes. You may wish to use any of these videos about BirdLife’s nature reserves to give the children an idea of the work and dedication to nature that goes behind creating homes for nature. You will find the links here.

Tip for Year 4: Create an interactive discussion. After the video, discuss what they saw.

What is a nature reserve?

Why do we need to set aside land for nature?

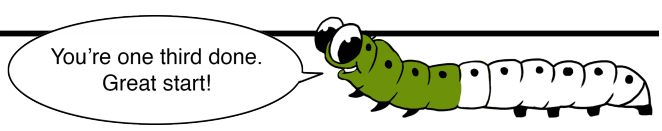
What animals did you see in the video?

3. Plan and Book Your Visit to a Nature Reserve

Book a visit to a BirdLife Malta nature reserve (email dinjawahda@birdlifemalta.org) to see first hand how land can be managed to give nature a home. Once you book, you will be sent a link to a worksheet relevant to your year group.

We are experiencing a high volume of field visit requests, and we encourage you to secure your reservation early as slots are limited and assigned on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Years 1/2 – Hands-on visit at Salina (in English)



Children learn how we can help nature through the creation of nature reserves.

Nature Watch

Year 3 – linked with Social Studies

Years 4/5 – Linked to Science and Social Studies - Hands-on visit at one of BirdLife Nature Reserves

Year 6 – linked with Science, but see also topic Riding the Wind (Salina visit)

Please be advised that we do not offer field visits for Kinder 1 and Kinder 2. You can, however, opt for organising your own nature visit at Buskett or any nature area near your school and carry out activities proposed in the *"Nature Days activity guide"* for Early Years in the "Downloable materials". You can report your Nature Day in this section to get points.

4. Take Photos of Your Visit

During the visit, take photos that you will later use to create displays.

5. Talk About the Living Things You Saw

After the visit, divide children into groups and discuss the living things observed in the natural environment. Encourage them to explore the living things observed and the natural environment once again through photos e.g. the beauty of particular plants or animals they saw, colours and seasons, why nature reserves are important for animals.

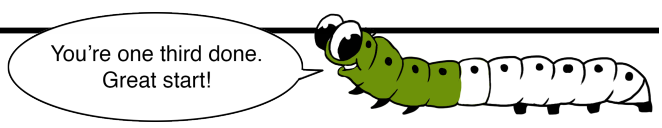
6. Create Group Displays and Share Them with the School

Set the groups to work using printouts of the photos you took. Each group creates a different display – you can use the *"Free Standing Display"* in the Downloadable Materials. A minimum of three modules are needed to qualify.

Ultimately, create a class or foyer display and share with the rest of the school during an assembly.

Send photos of

- ☐ Nature reserve visit
- ☐ The displays
- ☐ Children building display/diorama



Children learn how we can help nature through the creation of nature reserves.

Nature Watch

Resources & Equipment Needed

Year 3

- News Headlines about Habitats
- Camera
- Clipboard
- Checklist
- Pencil

Year 4

- Shoe box
- Camera
- Clipboard
- Checklist
- Pencil
- Colours
- Construction paper
- Craft supplies

