

The Foundation Phase

What follows are three 'Topic Webs' of what we feel are the most popular and relevant topics studied by children visiting the National Showcaves Centre for Wales. These are 'Dinosaurs', 'Caves' and 'The Farm'.

Each topic web outlines the 7 areas of learning as stated in the requirements for the Foundation Phase for 3 to 7-year olds in Wales by the Welsh Assembly Government. Under each area of learning you will find activities, or topics to discuss, which aim to support the development of children and their skills according to this curriculum.

We have provided these ideas as an example of how your visit to us can be brought back to life in the classroom with the children developing skills from their experiences gained during your visit. Likewise, activities and topics for discussion can be planned for prior to your visit to prepare the children for what they are about to experience. All activities have been carefully thought out ensuring that they correspond with the skills required under the areas of learning but this is only the tip of the iceberg with the opportunities for learning under these topics being endless. Where applicable, the areas of learning have been broken down into their sub areas in an attempt to show how diverse the topics are. Naturally, not all activities will be applicable to your current class but hopefully they will provide you with ideas which you can adapt.

Additional notes explaining the mathematical development activities of the dinosaur topic web have been provided. This was written to demonstrate how these activities can be planned for taking into account the wide range of abilities often seen in classes, especially those of mixed year groups. These activities could also be adapted to the other two themes.

We hope you find this information helpful and inspiring and that your classes will be stimulated to learn from their experiences at the National Showcaves Centre for Wales.