



Science  
Age 9-11

# Wildlife corridors game

- Biodiversity
- Interdependence



Learning  
through  
Landscapes

## ● Previous learning required

- An understanding of what animals need to survive (water, food, and shelter)
- An understanding of why it is important to support biodiversity and the role pollinating insects play in our ecosystems

## ● Learning outcomes

- To understand the concept of a **wildlife corridor**
- To relate this understanding to the school grounds and identify practical activities to encourage and support biodiversity

## ● Equipment

- Three large tarpaulins (or sheets)
- 10+ bean bags (or sponge balls)
- Large outdoor space

## ● Activity

1. Stretch out two of the tarpaulins, leaving an approximately two metre gap between them. Explain to the pupils that the tarpaulins represent fragmented meadow habitats full of nectar rich flowers.
2. Ask pupils to spread out equally along two sides of each tarpaulin, holding the material with both hands to raise the tarpaulins off the ground to waist height.
3. Explain to the pupils that the bean bags represent pollinating insects, then place them onto one of the tarpaulins (team one). Challenge team one to pass the bean bags across the gap to the empty tarpaulin (team two).
4. Repeat the activity, swapping teams so that team two can try passing the bean bags to team one.

5. After several attempts, stretch out the third tarpaulin and ask some of the pupils to hold it up in the gap between the two teams.
6. Repeat the activity. The pupils should now find it easier to move the bean bags from team one to team two and vice versa.

## ● Check for understanding

1. Ask pupils to discuss what the game shows us about wildlife habitats.
  - Insects must use more energy to cross an uninhabitable area (the gap) to find food (nectar rich flowers). When the gap is filled by another meadow habitat (the third tarpaulin), this creates a **wildlife corridor** which supports safe passage, provides more food and shelter, and increases insect survival rates.
2. Challenge pupils to define a **wildlife corridor**.
  - A **wildlife corridor** is a habitat which connects larger areas of wildlife populations separated by human activities or structures. These corridors are essential for allowing the free movement of animals and insects from one habitat to another, and enabling the continuation of healthy populations.
3. School grounds can provide valuable links with other landscapes, making it easier for species to move between areas. Challenge pupils to identify sustainable ways to enhance the school grounds to support biodiversity and make the outdoor space more wildlife friendly.

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: [ltdl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training](https://ltdl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training)