

Tell the Story of your Project!



The following activity is an opportunity for pupils to share the story of their pond building (or any other Eco-Schools project!) in a 3 minute reportage video to share with your community.

Description of the activity:

Our Mini Live Lesson with FrogLife discussed the benefits of building a pond on your school grounds and some tips on how to do it well. If you're inspired to build one, why not document the process in a short video to share with others.

After watching our Mini Live Lesson, plan how your pond project will develop using your Action Plan. Have pupils discuss what stages would make good video to capture.

Using a mobile phone or tablet, create a video no longer than 3 minutes to tell an audience about your pond. Your video will be entered into the [Young Reporters for the Environment](#) environmental journalism competition where it will reach an audience of nearly 500,000 young people and educators worldwide.

Competition Criteria

- Your video should be in English or have English subtitles
- Your video should be a maximum of 3 minutes in length not including credits
- Your video should be in a format [compatible with YouTube](#) (ideally MP4)
- Your video title should be no longer than 140 characters
- Your video is at least 70% your own footage, photos and audio
- Your sources are cited in the credits or a bibliography (MLA format)
- Please send in a [YRE Submission Form](#) to accompany your video

Experiences & Outcomes supported by this activity:

EXA 3-02a, EXA 4-02a, LIT 3-10a, LIT 4-10a, LIT 3-29a, LIT 4-29a, SOC 1-08a, SOC 2-08a, SOC 3-08a.

Technical Resources:

Fancy equipment is not necessary to create a compelling and interesting video. A mobile phone or tablet is more than capable of producing good results with a few tricks and apps.

[Kinemaster](#) is a free app that gives anyone with a mobile device the ability to cut, order, transition between, and export video clips into polished, high-quality movies. The free version will leave a watermark on your video – this is totally fine.

[Pixabay](#) is a good source of free, royalty free music that can be used in your videos. Please do not use copyrighted music because this will mean your video cannot be entered into the competition.

[Videography 101](#) and [Using Video to Communicate About an Issue](#) and [Environmental Journalism](#) are excellent guides from the Foundation for Environmental Education that provide guidance on producing effective campaign videos.

Further Classroom Resources

[How to Build a Wildlife Pond](#) – guide from FrogLife

[Creating or Improving a Pond](#) – Q&A from FrogLife

[Protecting Wild Animal Habitat](#) and [Urban Green Spaces](#) - Lessons written by Deutsche Welle in partnership with Foundation for Environmental Education.

Extensions

1. Host a screening for your videos, perhaps at an assembly or lunchtime club.
2. [Write an article](#) on your pond to be published in your school's newsletter and in our [Keep Scotland Beautiful blog](#).
3. [Take a photograph](#) that inspires others to act for wildlife. [Have a look](#) at photographs taken by young people around the world for inspiration.