



High Weald Hero Activity Card Sounds and Colours



Location: Anywhere on the walk

Time: 10 minutes

Equipment: None

Audience: KS1 & 2

An activity that encourages the use of senses and attention to detail

Activity Description: Children find a nice spot to sit or lie down. They become quiet, close their eyes and hold up hands with fists closed. They raise a finger for every new noise heard. Open eyes and discuss what different noises there were. Is this a noisy or a quiet place? Repeat activity in different places along the route – is it getting noisier? Quieter? Can the same things always be heard? Would you hear the same noise in an urban area? Are there any unexpected noises?

Now children count how many different colours they can see or, as an extension, different shades of the same colour.



Allow children to consider the different landuse throughout history and the changes each person would have made. Imagine going back in time, what might we have seen or heard? Iron workings? Wood cutting? Drovers with their pigs? Compare that to what you can see and hear today.

Be a High Weald Hero - you can make a difference



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High Weald Teaching Point: The High Weald is a cultural landscape, having been shaped by different people over thousands of years:

- Mesolithic hunters, 8000BC, came to the High Weald to hunt for aurochs (an animal similar to a cow).
- Romans, from 2nd Century AD, used the High Weald for its rich iron ore and made iron in small bloomeries.
- Saxon drovers (farmers) would lead their pigs into the woods to fatten up on the autumn acorns. Many of the routeways that drovers would have used to drive their pigs, from the North and South Downs, into the High Weald, survive today in the road and Rights of Way system.
- Medieval Commoners on Ashdown Forest, one of the many hunting forests spread over the High Weald, had special rights, such as grazing beasts and collecting an allowance of firewood.
- Tudors, like the Romans, used the High Weald for its abundance of iron ore. They introduced blast furnaces, ensuring that the High Weald was a leader in the production of iron ore. Britain's second blast furnace was built on Ashdown Forest in 1496.



Activity taken from Joseph Cornell, *Sharing Nature with Children II* ISBN 1-883220-87-4

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