

Medina Valley Centre Course Programme A2 Biology (AQA A/B)

Programme 1: the combination of fieldwork in this 5 day course gives a broad understanding of the processes involved in ecology and allows students to get first hand experience of different aspects of the syllabus. This example programme does not include coursework.

<i>Day and Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>	<i>Evening</i>
Monday	Arrive for lunch	Introduction to Ecology Rocky shore ecology at Bembridge Energy flow & food webs	Plankton sampling at High Tide Construct pyramids of number, biomass & energy using ICT Discussion of results
Tuesday	Visit to Newtown NNR Transect to investigate zonation Use of point frame quadrats and soil sampling	Visit to Newtown NNR Visit coppiced woodlands and pastures to consider management techniques	Analysis of soil samples Kite diagrams Introduction to statistics Discussion of results
Wednesday	Introduction to 3 Streams Kick samples & chemical tests Biological indicators of water quality	Continue with fieldwork Use of keys & chemical analysis Adaptations of animals	Calculation of Biological Indices Discussion of results
Thursday	Farming & Wildlife Visit a mixed farm with award winning conservation policy Fieldwork on hedgerow diversity	Visit a major Horticultural enterprise. Investigate use of modern technology & biological control	Use of ICT for statistical analysis Discussion of results
Friday	Medina Management Study Conservation and management in the local area	Depart after lunch	

Programme 2: the combination of fieldwork in this 5 day course gives a broad understanding of the processes involved in ecology and gives students the opportunity to complete an individual piece of coursework suitable for assessment

<i>Day and Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>	<i>Evening</i>
Monday	Arrive for lunch	Introduction to Ecology Comparative study of ecology of 3 local ponds Species ID & use of dataloggers	Calculate diversity index Mann-Whitney U statistical test Discussion of results
Tuesday	Statistical Analysis Introduction to Rocky Shore	Visit Bembridge Rocky Shore Rocky shore ecology at Bembridge Energy flow & food webs	Construct pyramids of number, biomass & energy using ICT Discussion of results
Wednesday	Visit to Newtown NNR Transect to investigate zonation Use of point frame quadrats and soil sampling	Visit to Newtown NNR Visit coppiced woodlands and pastures to consider management techniques	Analysis of soil samples Kite diagrams Introduction to statistics Discussion of results
Thursday	Project Day Plan investigations to compare differences between woodland management methods	Carry out investigation in Parkhurst Forest Coppiced, pollared & plantation woodland	Data presentation Statistical analysis Research
Friday	Medina Management Study Conservation and management in the local area	Depart after lunch	