

Sammy Snail's trail

by Jackie Holderness & Annie Hughes

Level 1 • Starter / Beginner +

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aims: To introduce animals and natural features; to practise listening to a sequence of actions; to practise introductions; to understand prepositions correctly

Time: 30 minutes

Student grouping: Individuals, whole class

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student; pictures of the following animals: frog, snail, spider, rabbit, bee, worm; the audio (downloaded in advance or played via onestopenglish); a small square of paper or card per student

Language focus: *Frog, snail, spider, rabbit, bee, worm; tree, river, log, rocks, track, house, bridge; hello, hi, come with me; Up, down, over, under, along; numbers 1–8*

Procedure

Step 1

Elicit the animals from the Language focus above using the pictures you prepared or mime. Then, say the animal's name and get the class to make the appropriate noise or action.

Step 2

Hand out the worksheet. Say an animal and then a number. The children listen and number the animals, for example *snail = 1, spider = 2, frog = 3, rabbit = 4, bee = 5, worm = 6*. Check their answers.

Step 3

Ask children to look at the other things on the worksheet. Teach or revise *tree, bridge, river, rock, log* and *house*.

Step 4

Take the picture of a snail that you prepared. This is Sammy Snail. Use it to teach prepositions through mime, for example 'Sammy's going along the table, over my bag, under the chair, up the wall, down the door.' The children then each draw their own snail on a piece of paper or card and follow your instructions, moving it around the classroom or around the worksheet.

Step 5

Tell the class that you will play the audio with Sammy Snail's route back to his house. Explain that Sammy can only move along the tracks. Ask 'Which tracks does he use?' The children should move their snails as they listen to the audio.

Step 6

Play the audio, stopping it at the pause marks (//), checking everyone is in the same place on the worksheet.

Follow-up activity

Choose some children to be the animals on the audio. Act out Sammy's journey, practising introductions – 'What's your name?' 'It's spider.' 'Hello, Spider!' 'How are you?' 'Fine, thank you,' etc.

Transcript

Hello! My name's Sammy. I'm a snail. Come with me! // I say 'Hi!' to my friend the spider and then I go around a tree. // I say 'Hello' to the bee, then I go over a small bridge and along a log. // Next, I go up, up, up and down, down, down. // I go round the rocks and say 'Hello' to the worm. // Good! Here's my house.

