

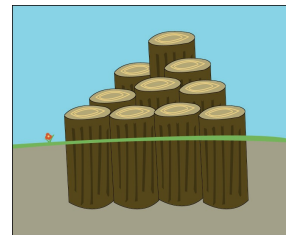
## Log pile leader's notes

### Background

In this activity, the children will help install a log pile. This activity is especially good for encouraging children to think about the habitat of stag beetles.

### Materials needed

- Logs
- Spade



### Running the activity

Choose logs that are approximately 20cm wide and 1m tall. Dig holes and bury them up to 50cm deep. Make a note of the type of wood used. Check for signs of use at six month intervals.

### Extension activities

- Take photos of log pile throughout the year to create a log pile diary
- Try using different types and sizes of woods in different locations
- Install a bucket in the middle of the log pile so that it can be removed to check for beetles without damaging the wood
- Install a data logger and monitor temperature and humidity
- Try to identify the fungus growing on the wood

### Essential information

**Age range:** Key stage 1 and 2

**Group size:** Whole class split into groups of 5 or 6

**Time needed:** 45 minutes

#### **Curriculum links: Science-**

KS1 and KS2: Working scientifically

Year 1: Animals, including humans

Year 2: Living things and their habitats

Animals, including humans

Year 3: Animals, including humans

Year 4: Living things and their habitats

**Setting:** Outside