

Watching Ospreys

Introduction

If we watch ospreys how can we do a more scientific study?

Science uses a series of steps. At each step the pupils have decisions to make in their study.

Approach this as questions which have to be answered in each step.

Observe



First we have to watch the ospreys. You can do this using the Rutland Ospreys live web camera. www.lrwt.org.uk/rutland-ospreys

What “osprey behaviour” can we see at the nest?

Here are a few examples.

- Bringing in sticks to build up the nest.
- Sitting in the nest.
- Bringing a fish to the nest.
- Feeding the young.



Measure

Science is about measuring.

We can count “**how many**”, usually in a length of **time**.

- **How many times** does the osprey bring sticks to the nest?
- **How many fish** does the osprey bring to the nest?
- **How many times** does the osprey feed each chick?

Another way to measure is “**how long**” ?

- **How long** does the osprey spend in the nest?
- **How long** does the osprey spend feeding its young?

It is better to do measuring more than once. This makes the results more accurate.

Record your results

How can you record what you have seen?

You can just **write down** what you have seen in sentences , or **draw** what you have seen. If you are measuring **how many** or **how long**, you can make a **results table**.

Display your results

To make it easier to see the next step is to turn the results into a chart or graph

A **Pie chart**, a **bar chart** or a **graph** helps us to see patterns in the results.

Making a conclusion

What do the results show? Write down what your results show. This is called a conclusion.

Evaluation

How could you make your study better? Could you do the study in a different way?

Did you have enough results?