

King's Student
Perspectives

Natural
Sciences
(Biological)

Field Trip

Rebecca, 2nd year

Evolution and Behaviour Field Trip

The week of my Easter holidays spent frolicking around the Devonshire seaside in gorgeous sunshine is one of my fondest university memories! We stayed in the Slapton Ley Field Centre, which is in a beautiful location and complete with labs for study and for talks, as well as amazing food and a pub just down the road!

The trip supports the first year course Evolution & Behaviour, and as such is heavily subsidised by the department. Any remaining costs are often met by colleges, as was the case for me. Our days typically involved rummaging around in various habitats – including beaches, lakes and woodland – generally indulging the basic curiosity of any nature-lover. We rooted through the undergrowth, picked things up and in some cases got a good look at our specimens through microscopes back in the lab - all whilst subtly revising topics covered in Lent term lectures.

As well as some revision, we also gained experience in designing small group projects, and then gathering, analysing and presenting the data to everyone else. We visited the Eden Project to learn about more exotic ecosystems and at the end of it all we had a friendly pub quiz which I am very glad to say my team won! All in all, it was a very relaxed but hugely interesting and informative field trip. Loved it :D

Evolution and Behaviour is one of the first year options in Natural Sciences: <http://www.plantsci.cam.ac.uk/teaching/eandb/index.html>

The Eden Project: <http://www.edenproject.com/>



Slapton Ley Field Centre



On the way to Gorah Rocks



		Limpets
Velvet swimming crab		
		'Mermaid's Purse' (an egg case)
Snakelocks Anemone		
		Break



Mycroft, Me (centre), and Grace



Scallop



Goby (?)


















Lauren, Grace and I on the beach



Chordate outsmarted by a Cnidarian!



Gem anemone

		
Sea lemon	Lauren and I	Dog whelk eggs
		
		
Ice cream break!	Honeycomb ice cream + fudge stick	
		
Wood sorrel	Liverwort	Moss with sporophytes
		
	Hemlock	

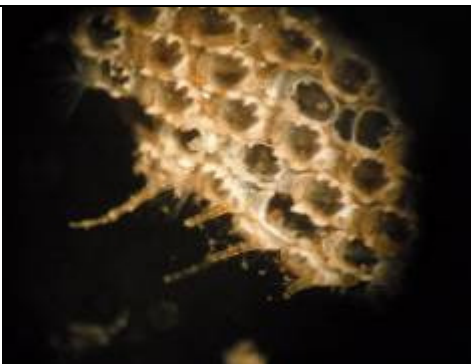


On the way to Slapton Ley

Mayfly larvae



In the Lab



Electra pilosa through microscope

Electra pilosa through microscope

Schizoporella unicornis








The Eden Project, Cornwall

Bananas



Gecko

		
	Bank vole	Bank vole
		
Pigs!		Agave and anonymous cactus
		
Monocots	Leaving our mark	Woo!
		
	Our winning quiz team: <i>You can with Cam</i>	

A note to current King's Natural Scientists

If you would like to write about your experiences of studying Natural Sciences at King's for our prospective students to read, please email Kristy in the Admissions Office for further details: undergraduate.admissions@kings.cam.ac.uk.