

# 01 | Buzz about barcoding



## Aim

Deliver an assembly / tutor / subject cohort session about the opportunity to participate in Barcoding for beginners – investigating the biodiversity of invertebrates in the local area. Explain what barcoding for biodiversity is, and how it can be used to identify known invertebrates or start to characterise unknown invertebrates.

## Activity outline

In the animal kingdom, a large proportion of species belong within the invertebrate phyla. The size, abundance and habitats that invertebrates live in, can make them tricky to sample and classify. The Barcoding for beginners project allows you to try and find unknown invertebrates from your local environment, classify them using molecular biology techniques and investigate how they are related to other invertebrates.

This session will introduce the idea of barcoding to identify biodiversity, as well as the pleasure and importance of doing so. It will explain how the Barcoding for beginners project allows you to do cutting edge investigative science and how to get involved in the project.

## Age range

Key stage 4 and above (14 years and older)

## Timing

This session is not a full hour, as delivery is anticipated during assembly, tutor or subject cohort sessions which tend to be around 20 minutes. It includes an introduction to Barcoding for beginners and information for students about how to get involved.

## Venue

Room(s) with projector, so that all students being offered the chance to take part are able to see what the Barcoding for beginners project is about

## Resources

- **Presentation:** 01\_P\_Buzz-about-barcoding

## Preparation

This session is about recruiting students to participate in the Barcoding for beginners project, if it is something being offered as an option. Alternatively, where it is being used with a specific cohort, it is used to inform students about what they will be doing.