



## Junior Certificate Science Courses

A wide range of syllabus-related courses are available. Outlines of our most popular courses for Junior Certificate Science are given below. However, if you would prefer a course relating to other aspects of the Junior Certificate Science syllabus, just contact us to discuss other options.

### Introduction to Ecology

Students gain practical experience of a variety of equipment and techniques while examining a woodland habitat and a pond habitat. The overall aim of this course is to allow the students to discover named examples of *competition, adaptation and interdependence* in a habitat they have studied. Students use quadrats, transects, pooters, pitfall traps, beating trays and freshwater sampling techniques during this course. Animals and plants in these habitats are identified using simple keys.



### Woodland Ecology Study - Plants and Animals

Examining changes in plant communities on moving from an open area into a woodland. This study involves examining the ground-level plants along a line transect from the grassland into the woodland and relating the results to light intensity measurements taken along the transect. Woodland invertebrates are sampled using pitfall traps, pooters and beating trays. During the course, the students examine plants in the field to identify the main parts of the plant and the main parts of the flower. All plants and animals are identified using simple keys.



### Woodland Comparison Study

Comparing the plants in a mixed woodland with those in a conifer plantation. This study involves the identification of plants (using simple keys) found in randomly placed quadrats. Vegetation height and light intensity may also be measured. Invertebrate communities in these habitats are also compared.