

Learning Area: Biodiversity		
Success Criteria:		
Introduction	Activity	Summary
<p>We are going to carry out a survey of the plants and animals that are found in different parts of the school grounds – lawns, flower beds, hedges, trees, trampled paths, wet areas, even in the classroom.</p> <p>Students will work in pairs.</p> <p>The first survey the whole class will do together then each pair will establish a survey topic and carry out their own surveys.</p> <p><i>Why might we carry out surveys such as these?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The whole class survey is going to be on Daisies in the lawn. • Collect some estimates – encourage use of large numbers. Measure the area of lawn (in meters square) • Have each pair of students count the number of daisies in a different square meter (this could be pegged out, or you could use simple 1mx1m frames, called quadrants. • Have each group calculate the number of daisies they think there are in total (their count multiplied by the total number of square meters of lawn). 	<p>Compare answers –</p> <p><i>How variable are they?</i></p> <p><i>Which are the largest and smallest numbers?</i></p> <p><i>Why are some higher than others? (uneven distribution)</i></p> <p>Establish the spread, mode, median and mean of the class answers.</p> <p>Discuss how you could be sure of your accuracy (<i>take several readings and average – you can do this with all the class results</i>)</p> <p><i>Do you take random samples or chose where you put your quadrant?</i></p>