

Code of Practice for Biology Field Studies

1. Clothing, footwear and other essentials
 - a. Wear long-sleeved shirts, trousers and hat with wide brim.
 - b. Wear sneakers / plimsolls. Slippers and sandals are not recommended. Never walk barefoot in the field.
 - c. Apply mosquito repellents where necessary.
 - d. Apply sunscreen lotion where necessary.
2. Dangerous plants and animals
 - a. Avoid allergic plants, e.g. *Rhus succedanea*, *Alocasia cucullata*, *Alocasia macrorrhiza*, *Colocasia esculenta* and *Excocaria agallocha*.
 - b. Be careful with harmful invertebrates, e.g. centipedes, spiders, bees, wasps, some ants, some caterpillars, leeches, sea urchins, jelly fish, and rock oysters
 - c. Beware of dogs, monkeys and snakes.
3. Preventing physical injuries
 - a. Walk carefully on wet surfaces or surfaces covered with layer of algae.
 - b. Never stand on any steep slope or unstable slope.
 - c. No swimming, tree climbing, rock climbing. Do not jump on the rocks.
 - d. Wear protective gloves when lifting rock or other objects.
 - e. Keep to clear paths. Avoid entering into areas with dense vegetation.
4. Preventing infection and food poisoning
 - a. Do not collect or closely examine dead bodies of vertebrate.
 - b. Wear rubber gloves when working in polluted water. Do not step in polluted water
 - c. Wash hands and feet thoroughly after field work. Clean used equipment properly.
 - d. Do not eat anything found in field sites including mushrooms, fruits and nectar.
5. Collecting specimens
 - a. Check with the following laws and ordinances beforehand:
 1. Cap 169 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance
 2. Cap 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance
 3. Cap 208 Country Parks Ordinance
 4. Cap 476 Marine Parks Ordinance
 - b. Take photos instead of collecting live specimens as far as possible.
 - c. Do not collect gravel or stone.

6. Protecting the environment
 - a. Respect life and nature.
 - b. Avoid causing damage to the habitat.
 - c. Avoid trampling on grasslands, shrublands and exposed soil surface.
 - d. Do not litter.
 - e. Be considerate to other people in the area.

Science Education Section

Education Bureau

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Reference

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