

CSI: RAT

Session Brief | KS3

(1 Hour)

Delve into the world of animal anatomy in the interactive and hands on session. Work scientifically to discover the interaction between the skeleton and muscles. Using the information provided make a prediction on the caused of death of a rat. *the rats used in this dissection session are from our food supply for our animals and are not for this sole purpose, all rats used will later be fed to our animals.

Session Content

- Get a glimpse of how we determine the cause of death in an animal.
- Take part in a real post mortem of a rat.
- Investigate the interaction between muscles and the skeleton.
- Draw up a conclusion based on your findings.

National Curriculum Links

- Use appropriate techniques, apparatus, and materials during fieldwork and laboratory work, paying attention to health and safety.
- Biomechanics - the interaction between skeleton and muscles, including the measurement of force exerted by different muscles.
- The function of muscles and examples of antagonistic muscles.

Pre-visit

- Research the major muscles in a mammal and label them on a variety of different mammals including humans.

During visit

- Observe a selection of our mammals and see the interaction between their movements and their muscles.

Post-visit

- Create a presentation about how muscles connect to a skeleton with labels and diagrams.