

## **Health & Safety and Risk Assessment**

Pond dipping is a very enjoyable activity but it does carry a number of potential risks, these can be easily reduced by following these guidelines.

1. Group ratio: Please ensure you have a ratio of at least one to eight by the pond.
2. Behaviour by the pond: All children should be made aware of the deep water and asked not to run or be silly near the edge.
3. Pond dipping should only be carried out by children kneeling on both knees or lying flat on their stomachs.
4. Weil's disease is a water borne disease; to prevent infection all open cuts and grazes should be covered with a waterproof plaster or pvc gloves as required.
5. To prevent infections children should be reminded not to put their fingers in their mouth, nose or eyes and should wash their hands afterwards.

A full risk assessment for this activity is available on our website. Please contact the Ecology Centre for further enquiries. It is advisable to have the Ecology Centre and Parks Police numbers to hand when at the wildlife area in Holland Park.