

**Cuthbert's Moor**  
An area of upland peatland in the Durham Dales

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### What do you already know about peatland?

Where are they?  
What do they look, sound or feel like?  
You might not know anything!  
What might you find there?  
Do they do anything important?

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### What's special about peatlands?



IUCN Peatland Programme

### What is peatland?



Marin O'Shea, J. Glanville, & Byg A. (2017). Online Peatland Learning Module: Peatland Action, Scottish Natural Heritage

### Top Layer - Living Plants



**Growing Conditions**




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### Middle Layer - Peat Layer



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### Base Layer - Rock



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### Taking Peat Depths - Process

- 1 Fixing the start
- 2 Pull out the tape
- 3 Push rod down
- 4 Measure
- 5 Record
- 6 Move set distance
- 7 Repeat
- 8 Keep recording

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### Taking Peat Depths - Results



Can you work out how many years it has taken for this peat to build up?

Ti is measured about 160cm

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### Activity - Taking Peat Depths

**TASK**

- Create a miniature peatland in a trough.
- First add rocks, then soil, then moss.
- Take peat depth measurements.
- Record your findings.




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### Recording your results

You can show your results on a **Line Graph** to make it easier for people to understand.

Plot the real peat depths from Cuthbert's Moor on your sheet.


In this example the depth was 42cm at 0m along the transect and 61cm at 1m, then join the dots.



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### What do your results show?

Plotting the peat depths then colouring the different layers is like being able to see underground. It gives a picture of what Cuthbert's Moor looks like below ground level.




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### Where is peatland found?

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### Where is Cuthbert's Moor?





- Deep Peaty Soils - over 40cm deep
- Shallow Peaty Soils - 10 to 40cm deep
- Soil With Peaty Fragments

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### Is all peatland the same?




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### Poor Ecological Condition




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### Peatland as an Ecosystem

**Biotic Factors**



**Abiotic Factors**



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### Credits

Lawrence Curlew and Black Grouse sound recordings by **Simon Elliott**

'The Day We Found The Bog' Video

Peatland Structure and Condition Diagrams - Marin O'Shea, J. Glanville, K. & Byg A. (2017). Online Peatland Learning Module: Peatland Action, Scottish Natural Heritage

Location of Cuthbert's Moor Map - France, A. Online Extent Of Peatlands In England, Catchment Based Approach Data Hub

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