(Assume parent sending email)

Dear Head teacher of [School name],

It has been brought to my/our attention that you intend to take the class pond dipping to enhance the topic that (Year\_/class\_) are currently learning.

(I/We) can appreciate that real-life experiences are an important part of school life and really help children to make the connection between what they are learning inside the classroom and the wider world. However, as the parent(s) of a vegan child in your class, I/we (am/are) writing to ask you to consider vegan-inclusive practice when planning your topic. My/Our child, [Child’s name], is vegan and as much as I/we value the lesson objectives within this topic, I/we would like my/our child to be able to take part in accordance with their beliefs.

You may or may not know, veganism is a protected philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude – as far as is possible and practicable – all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose. From our perspective, non-human animals should be left undisturbed in their natural environment; therefore, (our/my) child (insert name) will not feel comfortable taking part in this activity. Consequently, the planned pond dipping is both excluding my child and extremely upsetting for (him/her/them).

**Inclusion**

To avoid discrimination, and so that the children do not miss out on an exciting experience, I would like to suggest that you observe the animals in their natural habitat without touching them.

**Resources**

To show children life within a pond there are lots of videos online or you could use a camera. (I/We) can recommend using [virtual pond dipping](http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/index-no-ads.html?http://www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/ponddip/) online tools and [worksheets](https://www.teachingideas.co.uk/sites/default/files/virtualponddip.pdf).

If you would like any further information, [The Vegan Society](https://www.vegansociety.com/lifestyle/vegan-inclusive-education) has lots of useful resources and can support your staff in developing their vegan-inclusive practice with CPD accredited training.

A concise guide for educators on how to provide a vegan-inclusive education can be found [here](https://www.vegansociety.com/sites/default/files/uploads/downloads/TVS_Education%20Booklet_A5_DIGITAL.pdf).

I/We have not made this request lightly, as I/we know how hard you work and how far in advance you must plan your termly work and activities.

Thank you for reading this letter. I/We would be more than happy to work in partnership with you on any issues raised because of my/our request.

Yours sincerely,

[Sender name]