

Wildlife Watch

**Stage: 1-4****Time: 1-2 hours**

Introduction: It is our responsibility to monitor and care for the environment we live in, because it is home to thousands of species who often need our help. One way we can help is by looking out for and identifying different types of wildlife around where we live.

You'll need

- Survey sheets - print ours from page 2 or make your own
- Pen or pencil
- A camera or mobile phone
- Colouring pencils, pens or paints

Mild Challenge

Either print the survey sheet on page 2, or create your own, then spend one hour observing the wildlife in your school grounds or at home. Record all the species you see in that time. Keep an eye out for every kind of animal: birds, minibeasts, mammals etc. – anything that you like the look of and want to learn a bit more about. You could take a picture of any animal that interests you.

Choose one animal you saw and draw a picture of it, then annotate your animal drawing to highlight the main areas of the animal.

Medium Challenge

Follow the mild challenge, then add a brief paragraph about the habitat of the animal you have chosen – where do they like live, what do they eat, how can we help them more etc.

Spicy Challenge

Follow the mild and medium challenges, then try to write a short poem about the animal you have chosen. It could be from the perspective of the animal, or from your perspective – whatever you can think of, let your imagination run wild.

Extension

Work out how to care for your chosen animal. You could decide to help them out with a new habitat (home), or better access to food. The tricky part is figuring out what our chosen animal likes and then using our imaginations to think of the best way to help them.

Start by doing some reading on your animal to make sure whatever you do benefits them. For example, if you choose bumblebees, leaving out seeds for food will not help them as much as a bug hotel, or planting more 'bee friendly' flowers.

Our [Garden for Life leaflets](#) include ideas and information to help you support lots of different species.

Wildlife Watch Survey Sheet

Use this survey sheet to keep track of the wildlife you spot in your garden or near your home. Are there any animals you would like to learn more about?

Animal	Tally marks	Total