

CRAFTS



# WILDLIFE ACTIVITY PACKS

*A fun guide full of activities you can do at home  
to get creative and learn about wildlife.*



# ACTIVITY 1

## Wild recycling

Age  
10 and  
under

In the UK, we have some fantastic wild animals, birds and insects! From the world's fastest bird, the Peregrine Falcon, to cute water voles and crafty stoats, the UK has some amazing animals. So get creative and make something from the items you would normally put in your recycling bin.

Always remember to clean your items first and don't use anything sharp like cans. Whether you create your critter from cardboard or make paper mâché from newspapers, the aim of this activity is to reuse items that would normally be thrown away!

### Here are a few ideas:

- 1 A badger from a washing up liquid bottle and four yoghurt pots.
- 2 A butterfly made from recycled magazines.
- 3 A caterpillar from yoghurt pots tied together.
- 4 A stoat from a toilet roll tube and cereal boxes.
- 5 A fallow deer from plastic bottles.
- 6 A 3D woodlouse from cardboard.



We would love to see your creations! Share your photos on social media by tagging us @ipswichgov with #ipswichparklife

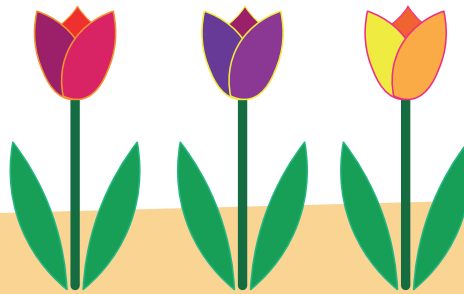


# ACTIVITY 2

## Toilet roll tube tulips

Age  
10 and  
under

This is a great way to use up toilet roll tubes and spare scraps of card or paper. You don't have to stop at tulips, why not try making a wildflower meadow from all different shaped flowers!



### For this activity you will need:

- A toilet roll tube
- Green paint (or blue and yellow to make green if you don't have any)
- A pair of scissors
- A pen or pencil
- Some colourful card (or paint normal card for a funky design)
- Some glue
- Optional: paint, tissue paper

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Paint your toilet roll tube green (inside and out, as the inside will be visible later, so try to paint as much as you can).
- 2 Cut out eight heart shapes from card and put to one side.
- 3 Once your toilet roll tube is dry, it's time to make the green parts of your tulip. Squash one end of your toilet roll tube in half about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the way down the tube, then unfold it, match up the creases and fold again.
- 4 Your toilet roll tube should now look square at one end and round at the other.
- 5 Take your scissors and cut down the creases about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the way down the tube.
- 6 Now we need to make the stems of the tulip. On each of your cuts, make another cut the same length about 1-2cm to the right of your original cut. Your toilet roll tube should now have four large pieces and four thin pieces cut out.
- 7 On your large pieces, draw a rough leaf shape with the point at the top of your toilet roll tube and cut them out, making sure that your tube is still all attached at the round end.
- 8 Now get your heart shapes again. On four of your hearts you need to cut a slit about halfway up from the point and on the other four you will need to cut a slit in the middle between the two bumps.
- 9 Slot one of your hearts into the other and you have a tulip flower.
- 10 Now glue the point to the stems and your flower is complete!

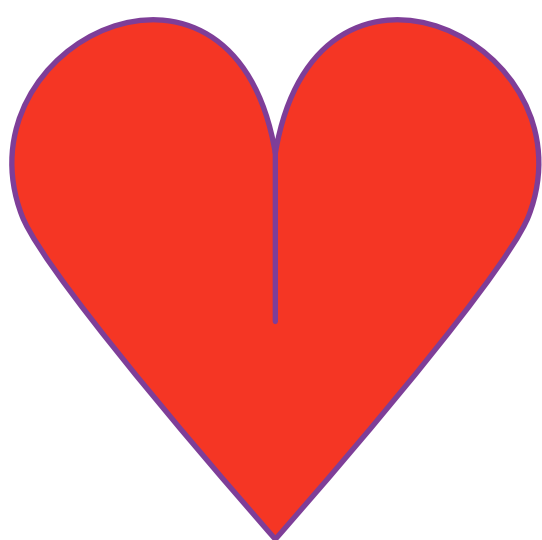
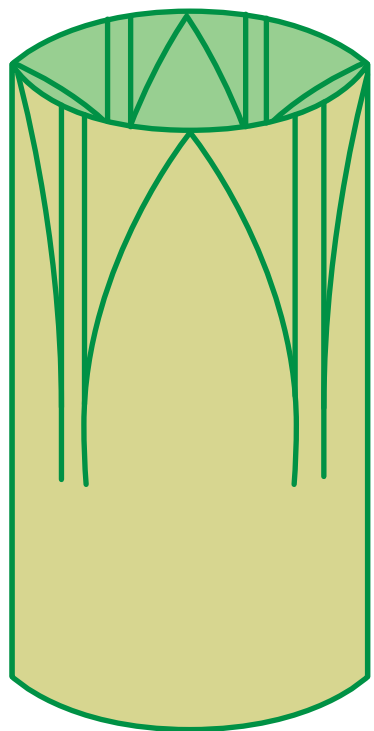
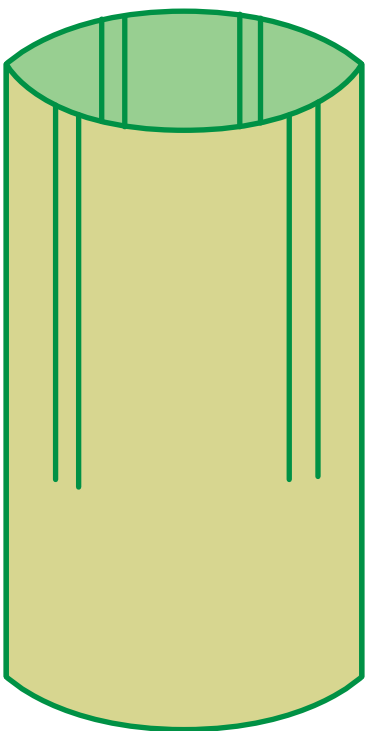
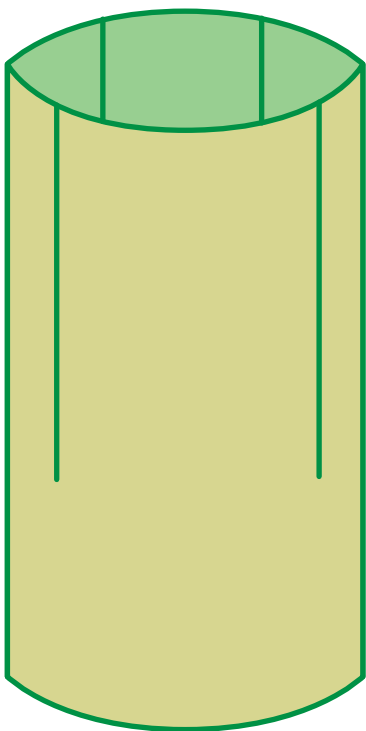
### CREATIVE IDEAS:

- 1 Draw some ladybirds or insects on your tulips.
- 2 Instead of using plain card you could paint it and make funky designs.
- 3 If you want to make a really frilly tulip, you could cut some hearts out of tissue paper and also slot these into your flowers and fluff them up.
- 4 You don't have to use just one colour card – you could use two different colours to produce two tone tulips.
- 5 Make a wildflower meadow using all different types of flowers like daisies, cornflowers, corncockles.

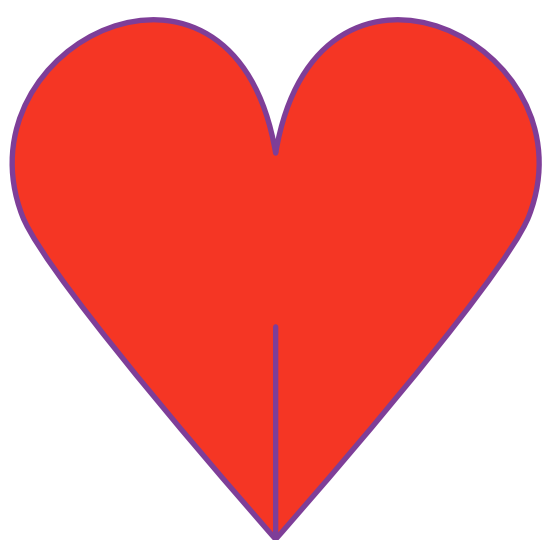
# ACTIVITY 2

## Toilet roll tube tulips

Age  
10 and  
under



CUT 4



CUT 4

# ACTIVITY 3

## *Make wildlife art*

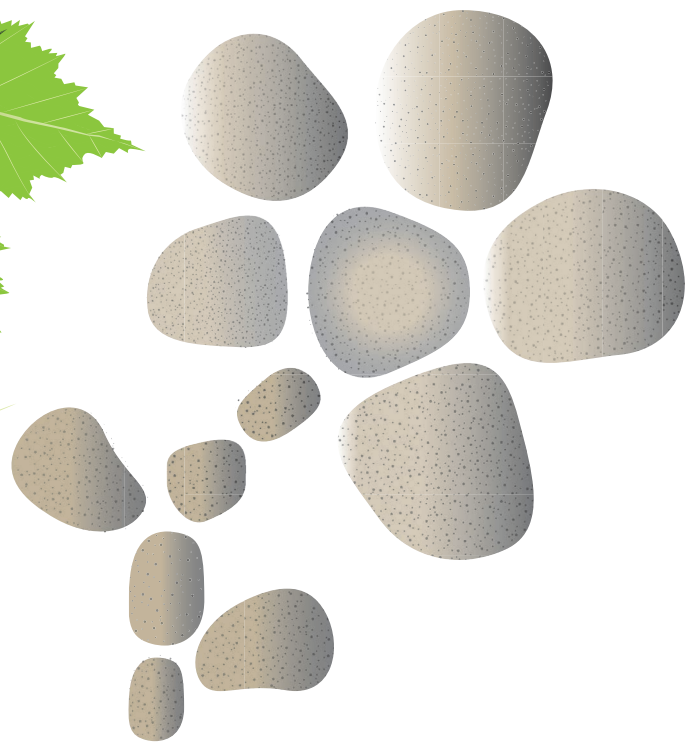
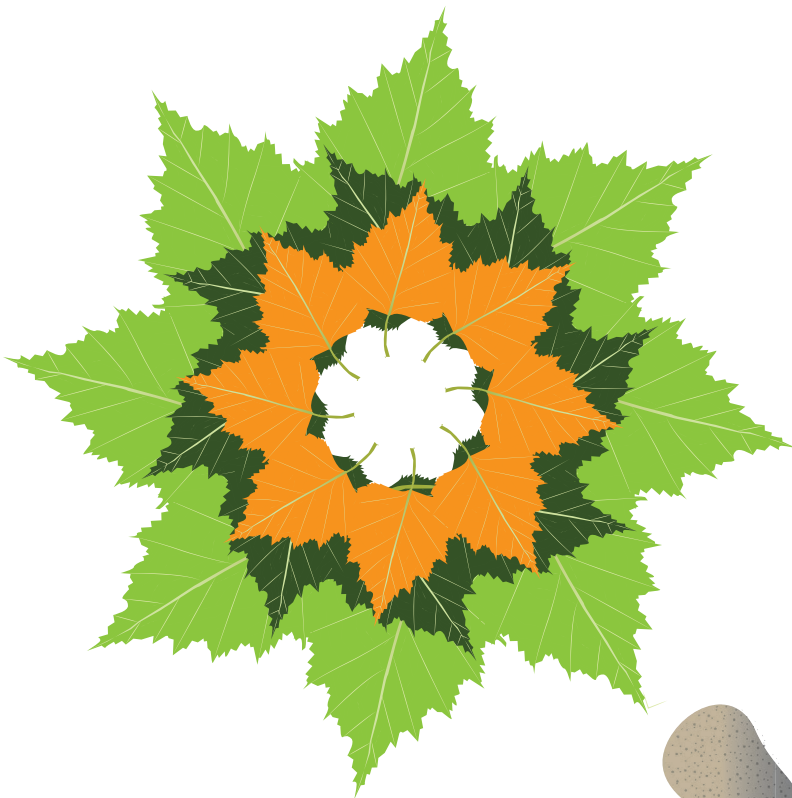
Age  
10 and  
under

**If you have a garden, this is a fantastic way to get creative with the world around you!**

Andy Goldsworthy famously made designs out of leaves and found objects. Get creative and have a go at making an Andy Goldsworthy style design, or make pictures from your finds, for example making a fox out of red colour leaves. Let your imagination go wild! You could use rocks, sticks, leaves, petals, feathers, or anything natural that you can find either on a walk or in your garden.

Always remember to use items that are already on the ground rather than picking anything from a plant as these can be a vital source of food or shelter to wildlife and are essential for the growth of the plant.

**Here are some ideas for things you could create:**



**We would love to see your creations! Share your photos on social media by tagging us @ipswichgov with #ipswichparklife**

# ACTIVITY 4

## Flower pressing

Age  
10 and  
under

**Pressing flowers can be a great way not only to preserve flowers for crafts, but also to learn about plants we have in the UK. This is a really simple craft and you can use the flowers however you like.**

Always remember that flowers are essential for lots of different types of wildlife. Whether providing shelter or food, flowers can be very important to a lot of different species. Only take a small selection of flowers and never take all of one type in an area as this might stop them growing. Try to avoid picking orchids which are very rare and don't pick plants which can be dangerous or sting like Giant Hogweed.

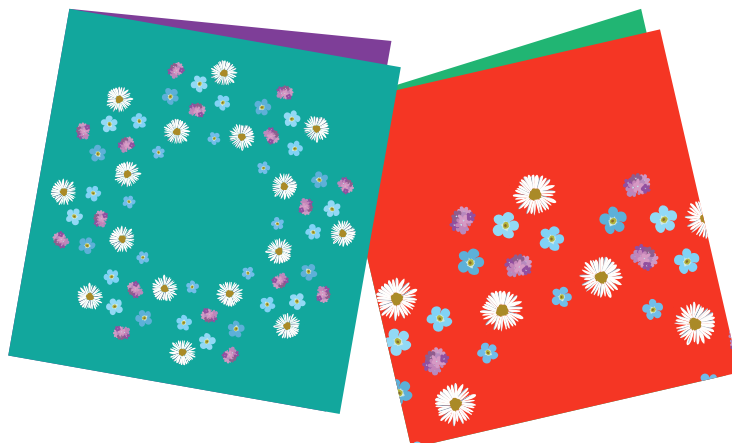
### What you will need:

- Some flowers that you have picked (always get permission before picking flowers from the garden!)
- Newspaper
- A large book
- Several smaller heavy books
- Card (if using for crafts straight away)

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Open your large book in the centre.
- 2 Put a piece of paper or newspaper inside so that it is covering both pages so that you do not damage the book.
- 3 Put your flower inside so that the flowers are visible and arrange them how you want them to look once they are flat and dry.
- 4 Close the book gently so the flower stays in place.
- 5 Put some more books on top to weigh it down. This will flatten your flower.
- 6 Store your books somewhere warm and dry, on a shelf above a radiator is perfect. If they are too cold and damp, they may go mouldy and lose their colour. Leave your flowers for a couple of weeks, checking every few days to see how they are.
- 7 Once they are dry, you can use them in a wildlife journal, make cards or simply frame them for a nice display of flowers all year round.

You can buy or make a specialist flower press made from four bolts, two pieces of wood and some cardboard, but the simplest way is to use a book!



# ACTIVITY 5

## Make a mini boat

For the  
whole  
family

Driftwood boats can be a great way to help clear up our beaches. In Ipswich, the only so-called beach can be found on the foreshore at Orwell Country Park. Due to its location, lots of litter washes up on the shores during high tides, including driftwood. Unlike plastics, driftwood is natural and doesn't have as much of a negative impact on the natural world. But it is great for crafts!

In this activity, we will show you how to make a driftwood boat. This involves using a drill and wire so you will need an adult to help.

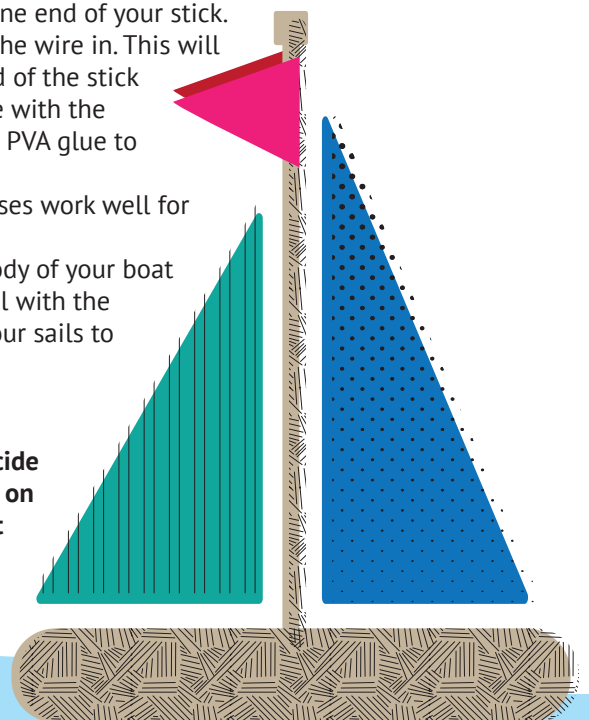
### You will need:

- Some driftwood – a large piece and a piece more like a stick or branch is ideal
  - A drill
  - A small hammer
  - Needle Nose Pliers
  - Wire
  - Scrap fabric
  - Thick cotton or wool
  - A small nail
- Optional:**
- Wood glue or PVA glue
  - Paint
  - Paintbrush

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 If your driftwood is too large, consider cutting it down to a smaller size using a small wood saw. If you want to display your boat, you will need a flatter piece of driftwood for the base.
- 2 Drill a hole in the centre of your large piece of driftwood. The hole needs to be large enough for your stick to fit in. Drill 1-2cm deep, making sure not to go all the way through the wood.
- 3 Using a nail, make a hole inside your larger hole, then use a pair of pliers to pull the nail out again.
- 4 Bend a small piece of wire together and poke it into one end of your stick. You may need to use the nail to make a hole to poke the wire in. This will act as support to hold your mast up. Push the wire end of the stick into the hole so that the wire goes into the hole made with the nail. You may want to use a small dab of wood glue or PVA glue to hold this in place, so the mast doesn't wobble.
- 5 Cut two triangles out of scrap fabric – cotton pillowcases work well for this or old canvas bags. These are for the sails.
- 6 With your nail, make another couple of holes in the body of your boat at either end to attach the sails to and remove the nail with the pliers. Alternatively, leave the nail in and use it to tie your sails to your boat.
- 7 Attach your sails and decorate however you like!

**These make for great decoration for your shelf! If you decide to sail your boat, always attach a piece of string and hold on tight. Don't let it sail away down a river or out to sea as it could get tangled around wildlife and injure them.**



# ACTIVITY 6

## Wildlife weaving

Age  
10 and  
under

This project will help you find a use for all those natural objects you find on walks, like seeds, sticks and feathers.

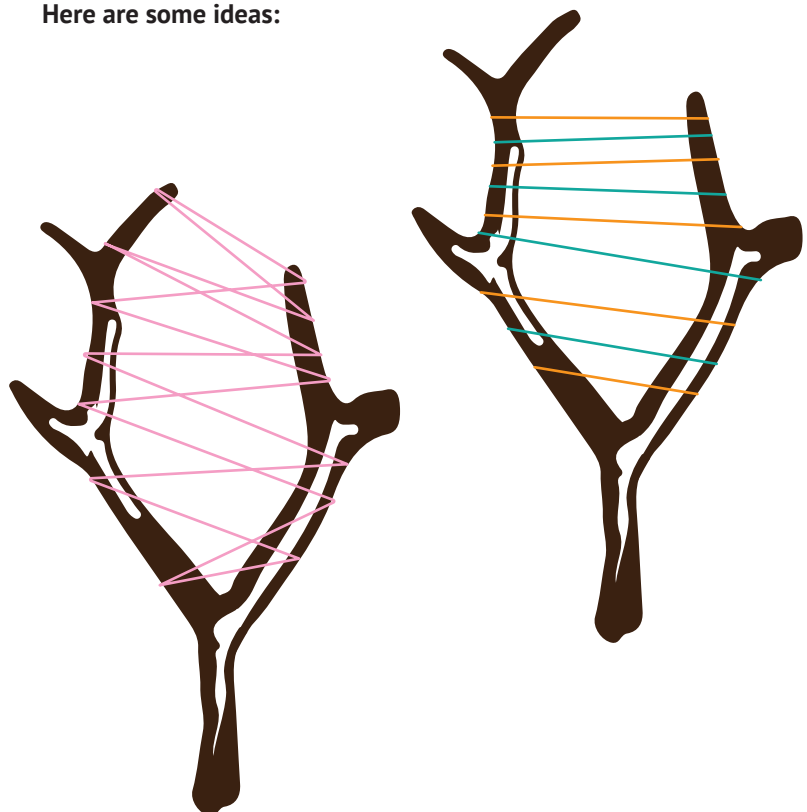
### You will need:

- A y-shaped stick
- Wool
- Scissors
- Natural objects

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Find a stick that has at least two sturdy branches, a thin stick might snap so try to get one that is thick. You could do a weaving with a stick with multiple branches – this looks great in vases of flowers!
- 2 You then have two options. You can either weave with wool and make a nice decoration or you can weave in some natural objects to make a dreamcatcher style design.
- 3 To do the weave with just wool, you start by tying the wool at the forked end of your stick. You then weave across your stick back and forth in a zigzag until you get to the top.
- 4 If you want more of a spider web design, tie shorter pieces of string across your stick at angles. You can then thread wool around where all the threads join in the middle then go in and out on every other thread with a long piece of wool until you get a spider web.
- 5 To attach your natural objects, you can tie them in or weave them between your wool.

### Here are some ideas:





# ACTIVITY 7

## Do a nature rubbing

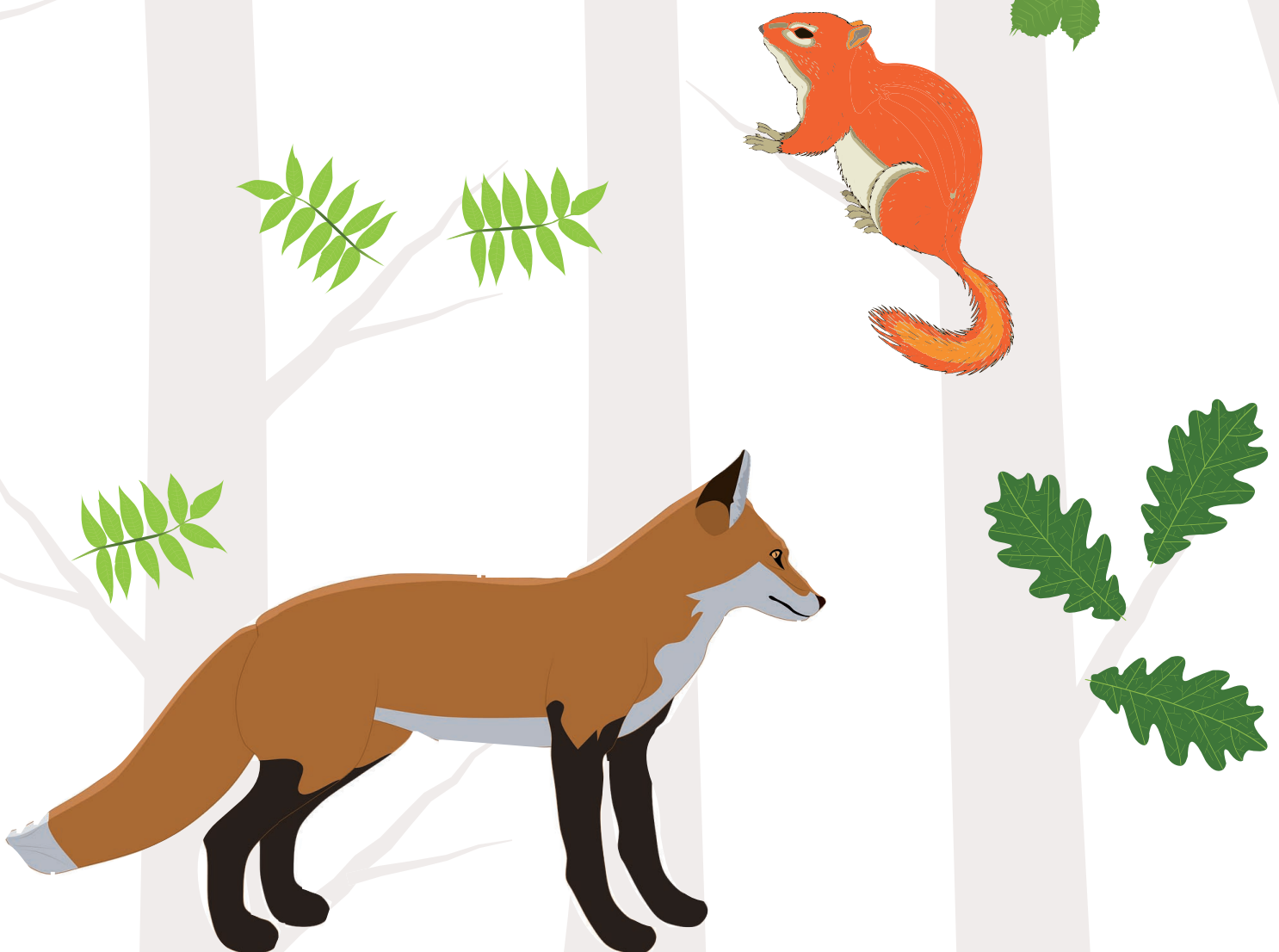
Age  
10 and  
under

**Taking rubbings is a great way to make a record of interesting patterns in nature. There are loads of different things you can take rubbings of. Bark, leaves, rings on a tree – the possibilities are endless. All you need is a crayon and a piece of paper!**

Simply take your paper and put it against the item you want to take a rubbing from. And using the long end of your crayon rub it on the paper really hard. The patterns on the item will start to appear!

Once you have your rubbings you could put them in a wildlife journal, or you could cut the pieces out to add texture to a collage. Why not try making animal fur from your cuttings and make a picture of a wild animal found in the UK, like a fox or a red squirrel!

**If you make a nature rubbing, get your adult to share with us on social media and tag us @ipswichgov and #ipswichparklife!**



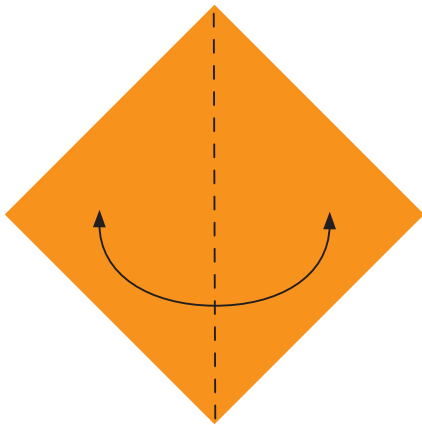
# ACTIVITY 8

## Fox origami

Age  
10 - 15

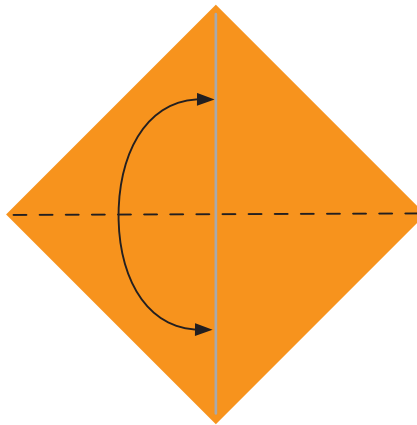


Origami is the Japanese art of folding paper. Here are instructions for how to make your own origami fox. All you need is a square piece of paper and a pen.



### STEP 1:

Fold your piece of paper from one point to the opposite point.



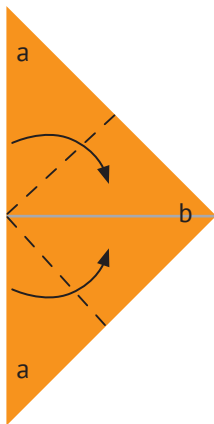
### STEP 2:

Now fold the other corners in the same way, you should now have a cross in the middle of the page.



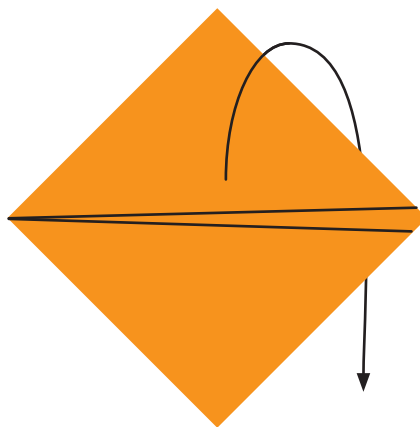
### STEP 3:

Now fold in half along one of your pre-folded lines to make a triangle.



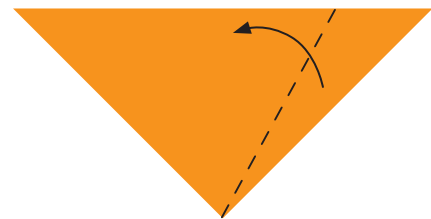
### STEP 4:

Fold your two corners, marked with an **a** to point **b**. This will make a smaller square.



### STEP 5:

Fold your square in half with the opening on the outside.



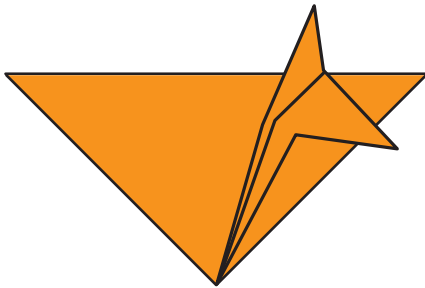
### STEP 6:

Fold the right-hand side corner over as indicated in the diagram above. This will make the fox's left ear.

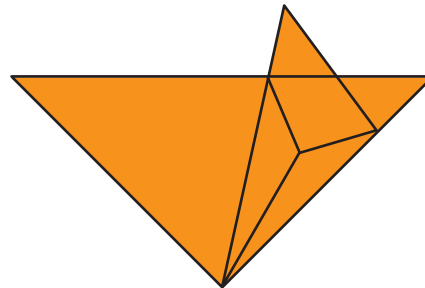
# ACTIVITY 8

## Fox origami

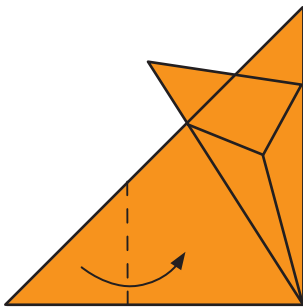
Age  
10 - 15



**STEP 7:**  
Your paper should look a bit like the image above.



**STEP 8:**  
The next step is a bit tricky. Take the next corner on the right and fold open it up a little then fold it back down to create the fox's face. The last point on the right should make the fox's right ear.



**STEP 9:**  
Fold on the dotted line to make a tail that will hold your fox upright so it can sit.

**STEP 10:**  
Now draw on some eyes and a nose and your fox is complete!



You could make foxes with different size pieces of paper to produce a whole family group of foxes (that's known as a skulk!).

# ACTIVITY 9

## Toilet roll tube owls

Age  
10 and  
under

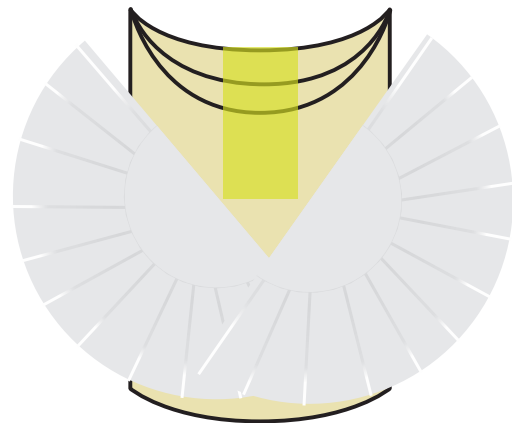
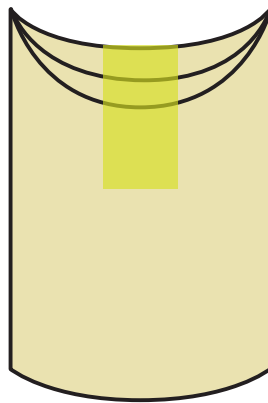
In this activity, we are going to make owls just like Mable and Matilda from Christchurch Park.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Fold over the top of your toilet roll tube in the middle, this should produce two points. Tape this down with a piece of sticky tape.
- 2 Get two of the cupcake cases and fold in half, these will be the wings.
- 3 Glue your wings onto your toilet roll tube, making sure that the two points are on either side a bit like ears.
- 4 Now fold another cupcake case into quarters. Cut the point off the top then cut along all of the folds, this should make four pieces. These will make the fluffy feathers on the front of the owl.
- 5 Glue these down or stick them with sticky tape, starting at the bottom and working your way up towards the points created in step 1.
- 6 Cut out two circles from scrap paper and draw a black circle in the middle of each, these will be the eyes. Stick these onto the top of the toilet roll tube so that they cover the top of your cupcake cases.
- 7 Cut out a small triangular beak and glue this on and your owl is complete.

### What you will need:

- A toilet roll tube
- A piece of sticky tape
- Some scraps of paper or card
- A pen
- 3 cupcake cases
- Glue
- A pair of scissors



# ACTIVITY 10

## Make toilet roll tube puppets

Age  
10 and  
under

Use recycled items to make fun UK wildlife themed puppets that can be used to make a puppet show! You could use your toilet roll tube tulips and your toilet roll tube owls made in the previous activities to make a whole recycled scene.

### For this activity you will need:

- A ball of string
- A toilet roll tube
- Cereal box cardboard (or any thick card)
- 4 plastic bottle tops
- A pen
- Paint
- A paintbrush
- 2 sticks, dowels or lolly sticks
- A hole punch
- A pair of scissors
- Glue or double-sided tape



### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Decide which animal you want to make. Maybe a hare, a badger or a hedgehog?
- 2 Draw out the head of your animal. Remember that the toilet roll tube will be the body so make it the right size to fit on the tube.
- 3 Decorate the head and then put to one side.
- 4 Using the hole punch, add two holes at the bottom of your toilet roll tube quite close together at the front. These will be for the legs.
- 5 Then at the top of your toilet roll tube add two more holes. These should be equal distances across the toilet roll tube.
- 6 Paint your toilet roll tube to look like the animal's body. Remember to add texture like fur.
- 7 If your bottle tops are not the right colour paint these too (you might find it easier to cover them in masking tape first, then paint them). These are the feet.
- 8 Using a pair of scissors, cut four equal lengths of string about 15cm long.
- 9 Get an adult to make a hole in the top of your bottle tops and two holes about halfway down your toilet roll tube to put the arms.
- 10 Thread your string through the hole in the bottle top and tie a knot inside the cap to hold the feet in place.
- 11 Now thread the other end of the string through the hole in the toilet roll tube and tie a knot.
- 12 Your animal should now have four legs.
- 13 Now cut two pieces of string 30cm long and tie these through the holes at the top of your toilet roll tube and tie to your stick/dowel/lolly stick.

**Stick on the animal's face and your puppet is complete!**

# ACTIVITY 11

## Cardboard bugs

Age  
10 and  
under

### To make your cardboard bugs you will need:

- Pipe cleaners or string
- Corrugated cardboard (the type with the zig zag card in the middle)
- Googly eyes (optional)
- Tracing paper or greaseproof paper (for the wings)
- Pencil
- Paint, pencils or pens for decoration
- Sticky tape
- Scissors

## STAG BEETLE

These designs are based on bugs you can find in parks and gardens in Ipswich. Why not see if you can find any in your garden!

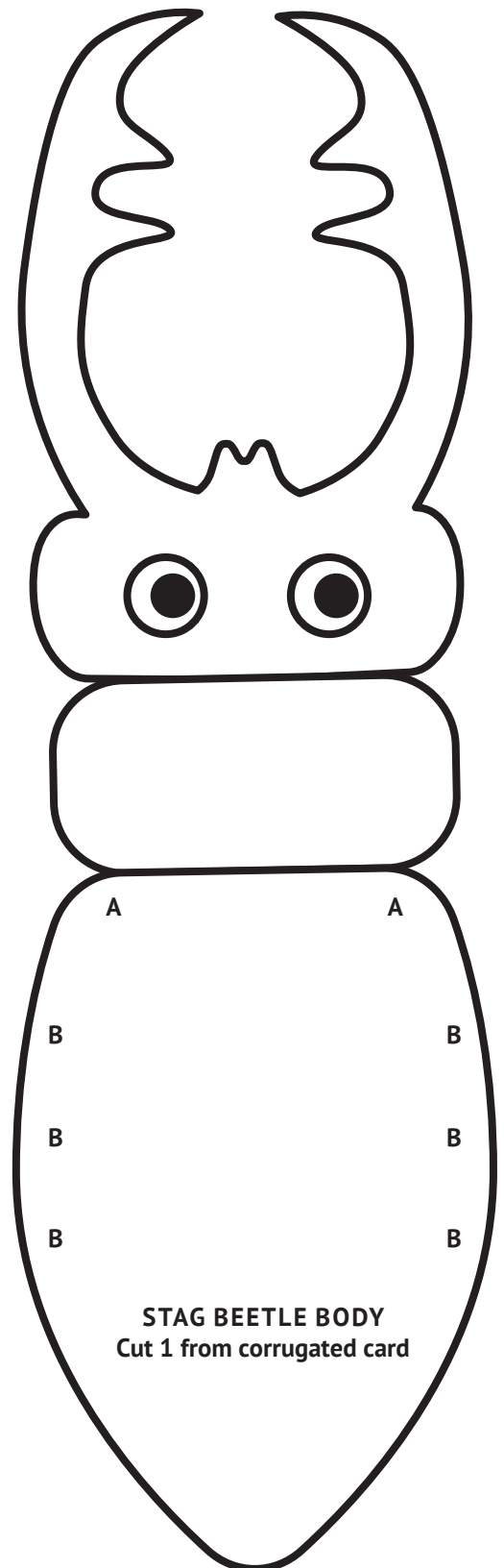
### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Draw and cut out your shapes (1 body piece and 2 wings from cardboard, then 2 wing pieces from tracing paper/greaseproof paper).
- 2 Decorate your cardboard pieces however you like (don't forget 2 eyes!).
- 3 Draw veins on your tracing paper to make them look like wings.
- 4 Tape your tracing paper wings to the body piece at point A so they can still flap at the bottom.
- 5 Then tape your cardboard wings over the top at the same spot so these can be lifted to show the wing underneath.
- 6 Push the ends of the pipe cleaners into the zig-zag layer of your cardboard to make the legs. You will need 6 of these (if you don't have pipe cleaners you could tape string to the underneath of your cardboard bug).
- 7 Get creative! Why not make your bug some boots, glasses or decorate in a funky pattern!

This bug is based on the Stag Beetle, the UK's largest beetle and very common in Ipswich!

We would love to see your bug creations! Share your photos on social media by tagging us @ipswichgov with #ipswichparklife

**STAG BEETLE WING**  
Cut 2 from card and 2 from  
tracing paper/greaseproof paper



# ACTIVITY 11

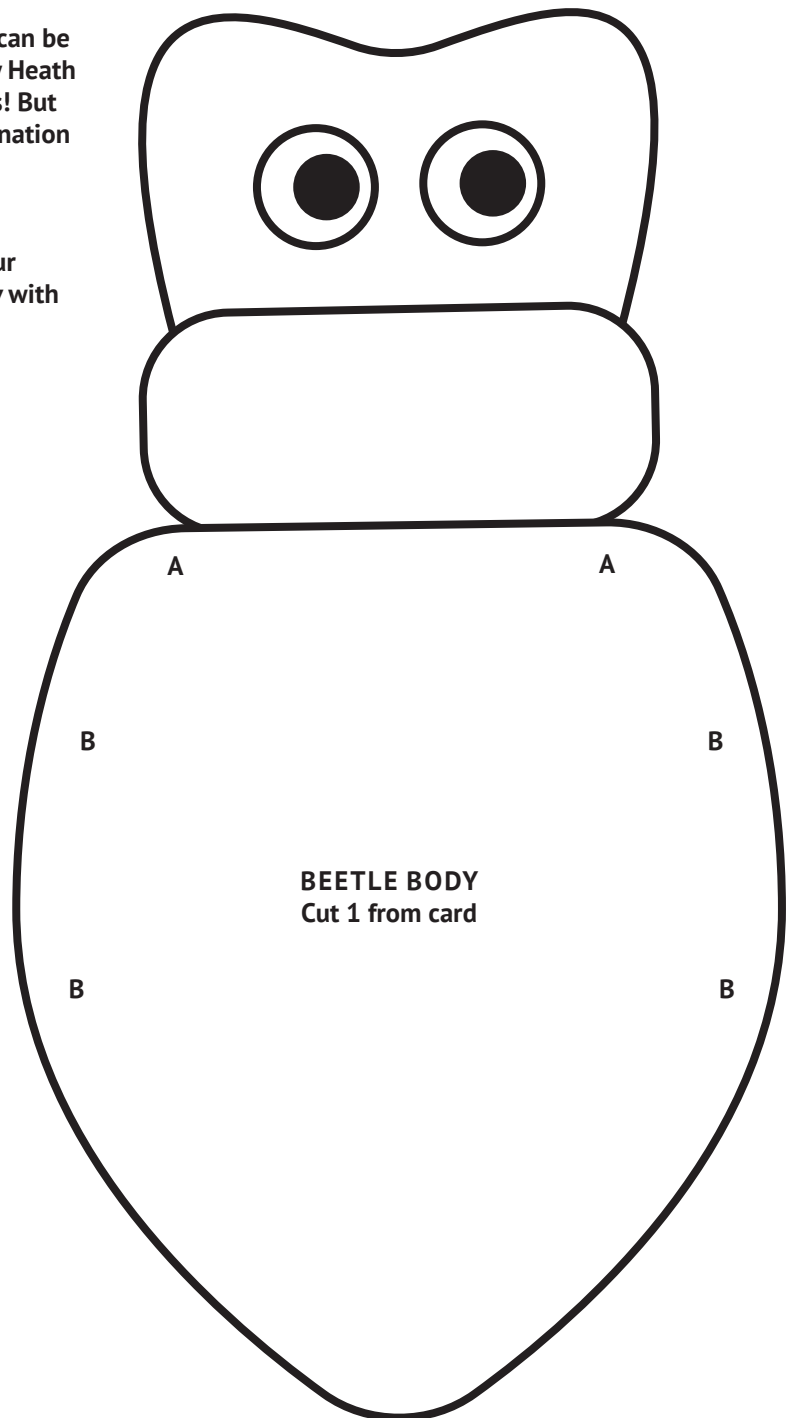
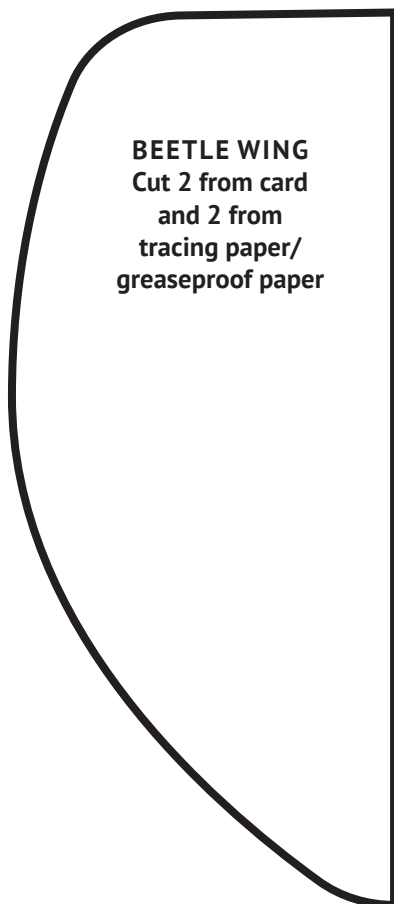
## Cardboard bugs

Age  
10 and  
under

### GREEN TIGER BEETLE

This bug is based on the Green Tiger Beetle which can be found on heathlands around Ipswich such as Bixley Heath and Pipers Vale. They are bright green shiny insects! But you don't have to paint yours green. Let your imagination go wild!

We would love to see your bug creations! Share your photos on social media by tagging us @ipswichgov with #ipswichparklife



# ACTIVITY 11

## Cardboard bugs

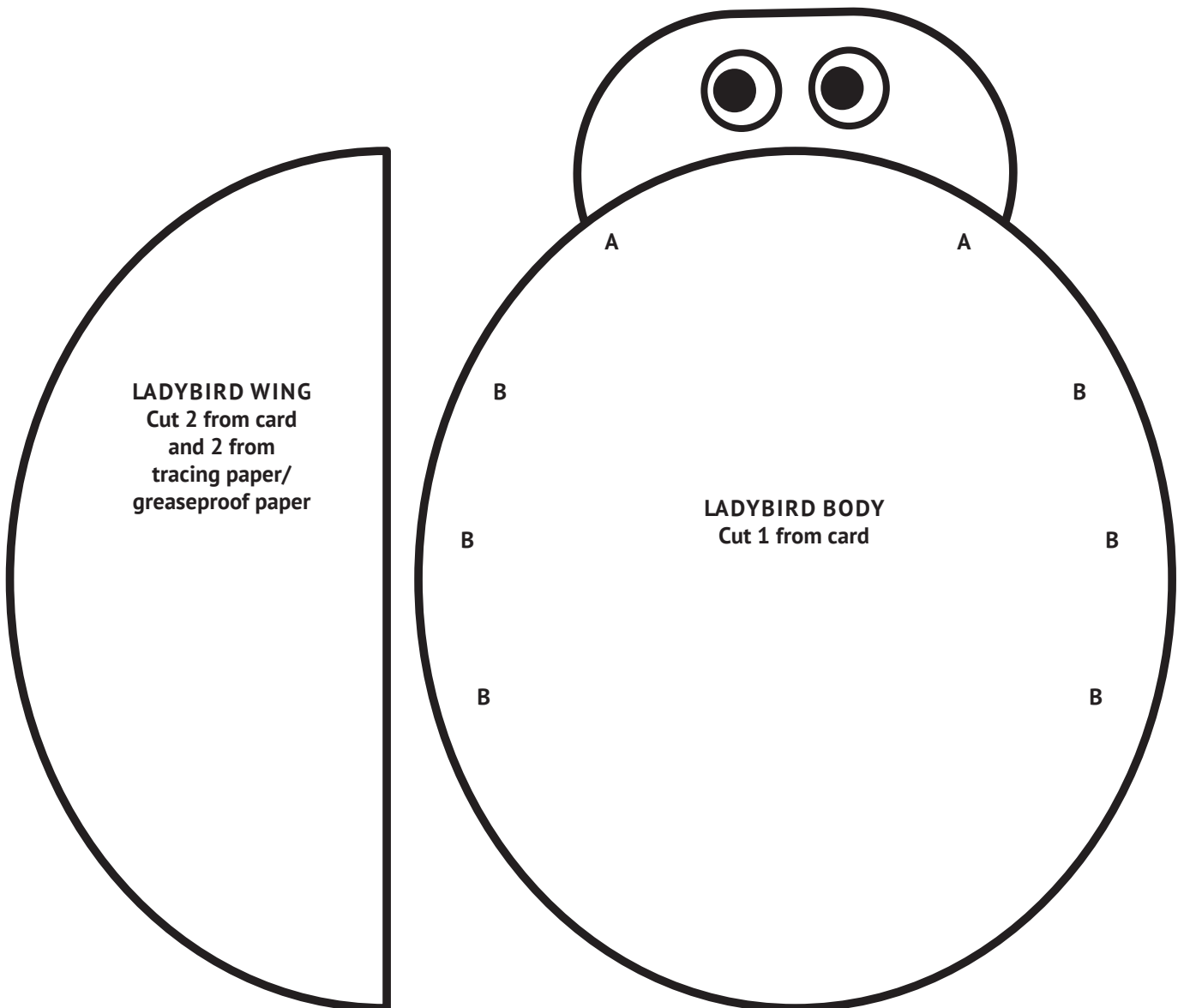
Age  
10 and  
under

### LADYBIRD

This bug is based on a ladybird. Most ladybird types are named based on the number of spots they have. Contrary to popular belief, the number of spots doesn't have anything to do with the age of the ladybird. How many spots will yours have?

In Ipswich, the most common ladybird species is the 7-spot ladybird. Ladybirds don't have to be red either! You can find red, yellow, orange and black ladybirds in Ipswich. What colours will yours be? Let your imagination go wild!

We would love to see your bug creations! Share your photos on social media by tagging us @ipswichgov with #ipswichparklife





# ACTIVITY 11

## Cardboard bugs

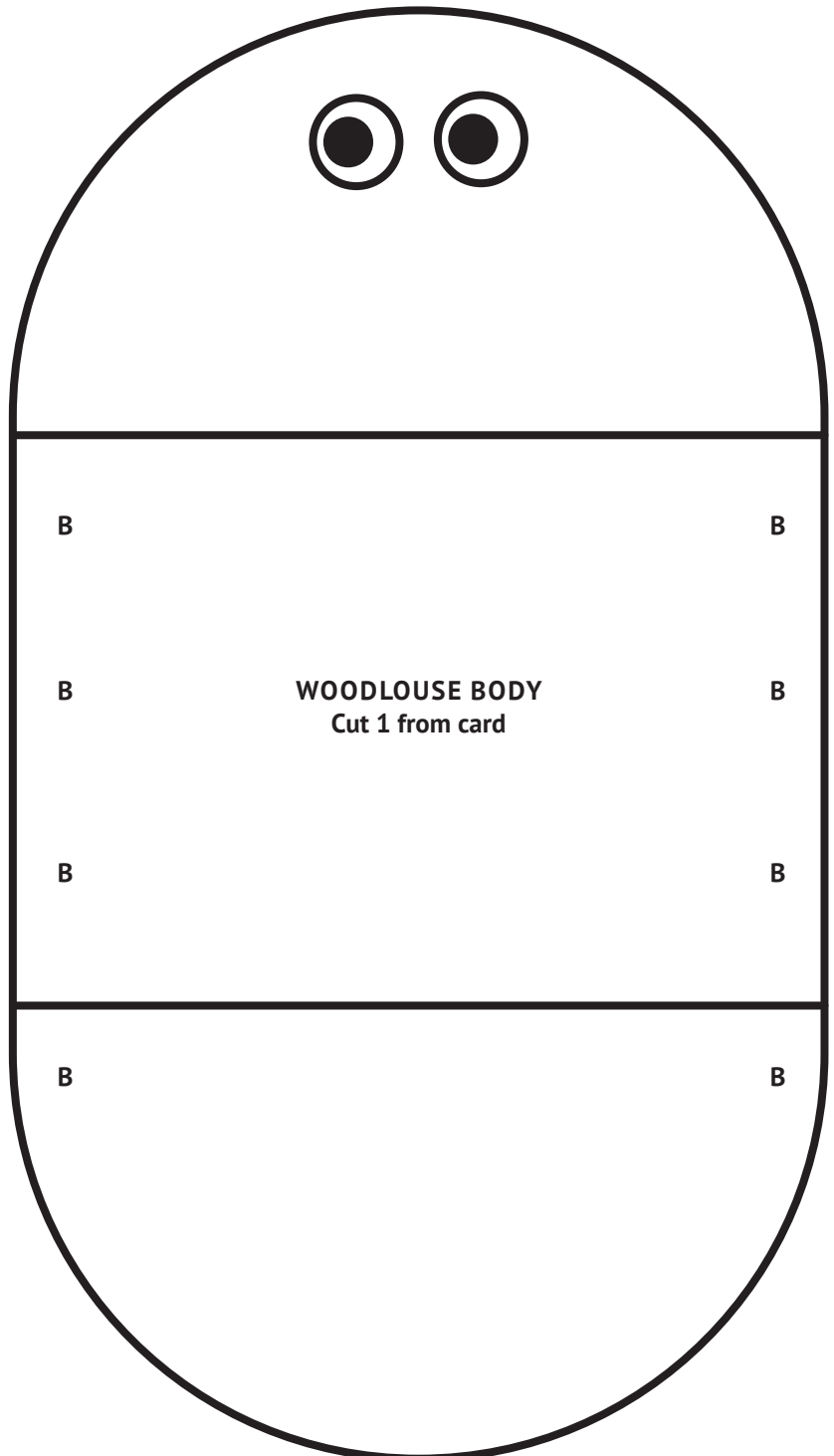
Age  
10 and  
under

### WOODLOUSE

This bug is based on a woodlouse which can be found in dark damp places like under rocks and logs. These little bugs are found all over the UK and have different names all across the country! In Suffolk they are known as “pill bugs” or “monkeypeas”.

Once you’ve made your bug, take it for an explore in your garden and see if you can find any woodlice!

We would love to see your bug creations! Share your photos on social media by tagging us @ [ipswichgov](#) with #[ipswichparklife](#)



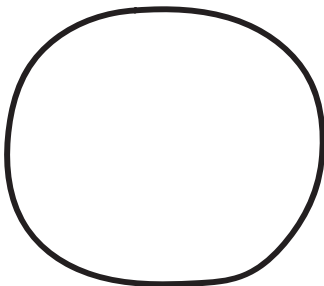
# ACTIVITY 12

Learn to draw wildlife

Age  
10 - 15

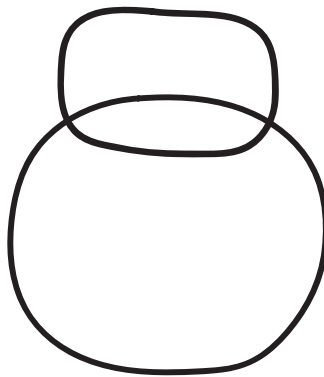


Here are some fun and easy ways to draw cartoon wildlife found in the UK



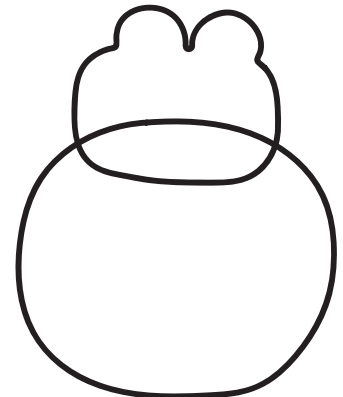
**STEP 1**

Draw a large oval shape



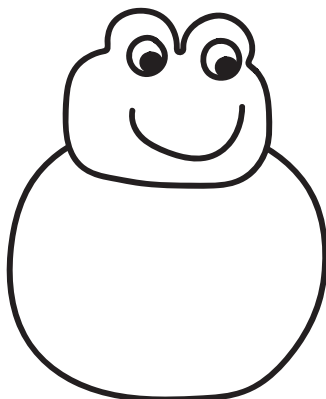
**STEP 2**

Draw a smaller oval shape



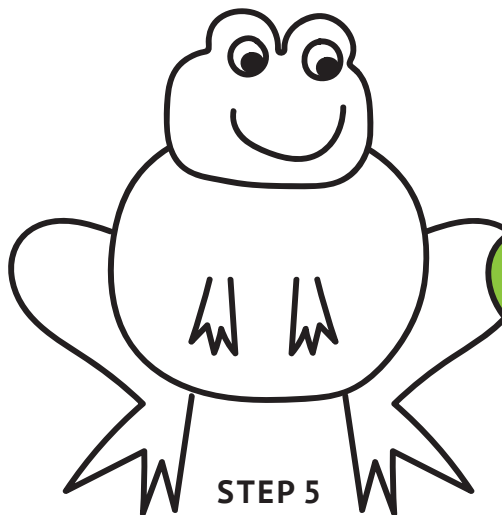
**STEP 3**

Draw two semi-circles on top

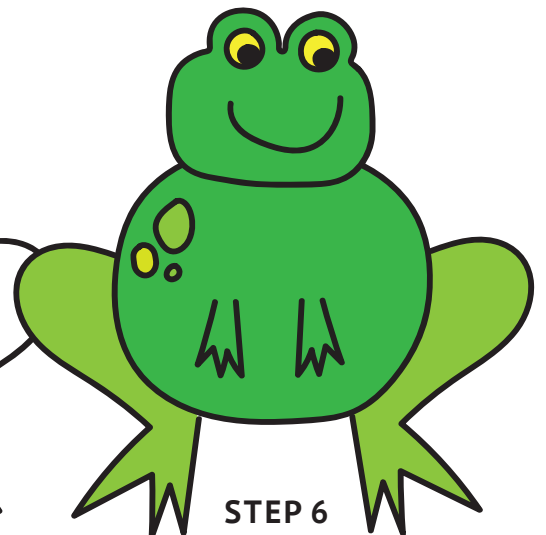


**STEP 4**

Rub out the overlapping lines.  
Add eyeballs and a smile!



**STEP 5**  
Add legs



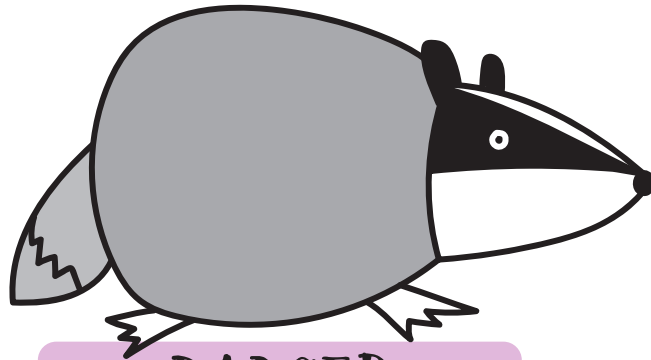
**STEP 6**

Colour in your frog!

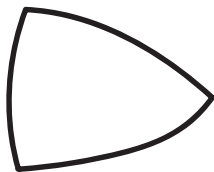
# ACTIVITY 12

Learn to draw wildlife

Age  
10 - 15

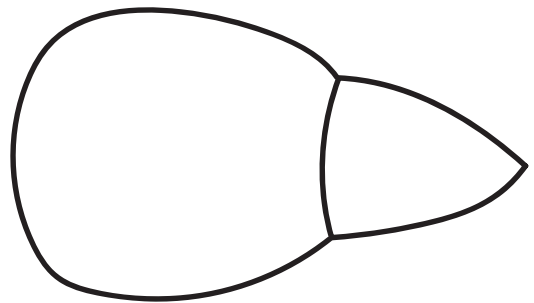


**BADGER**



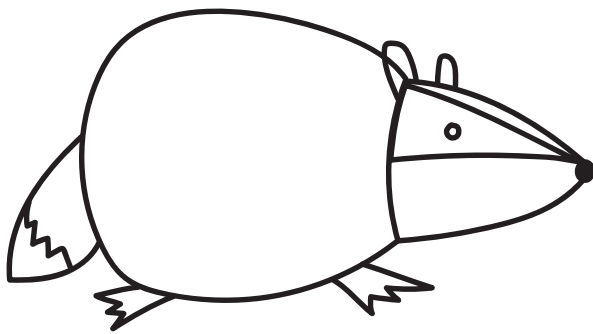
### STEP 1

Draw the head shape



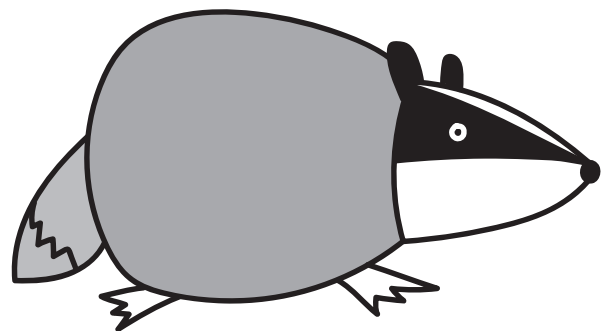
### STEP 2

Draw the body shape



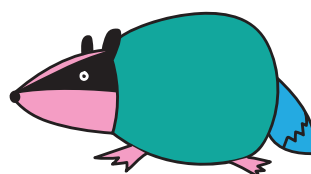
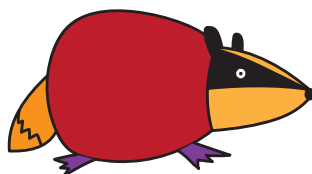
### STEP 3

Add some legs and a tail, followed by ears, nose and an eye and that all important stripe!



### STEP 4

Badgers are naturally black, white and grey but you can make your badger any colour you like!



# ACTIVITY 13

## Make a wildlife mask

Age  
10 and  
under

Using the following templates, make yourself a wildlife themed mask!

Why not complete your other activities dressed like a wild animal!

### YOU WILL NEED:

- The mask template below
  - Scissors
  - Sticky tape
- Pens/pencils/things to decorate your mask with
- String/wool

### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Using the template below decorate your UK wildlife themed mask using pencils, crayons, collage or anything you like!
- 2 Put a small piece of sticky tape over the two holes on either side of the mask.
- 3 Cut out your mask including the eye holes.
- 4 Using a hole punch, put two holes in the mask where you placed your sticky tape (the tape makes it stronger).
- 5 Tie two pieces of string and then get an adult to tie it at the back of your head to hold the mask in place. **Now you are a fantastic wild animal!**



