

GAMES, PUZZLES & QUIZZES



# WILDLIFE ACTIVITY PACKS

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





# ACTIVITY 1

## Ipswich wildlife quiz

For the  
whole  
family

Get the whole family together and see if you can answer our tricky wildlife in Ipswich quiz.  
Only true nature fans and Ipswich experts will be able to answer them all!

If you don't know the answers, get researching and then go and explore and see if you can find all of these species in Ipswich.

- 1 What type of Owl are Mabel and Matilda in Christchurch Park?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What type of bird are blue and orange and can often be seen in Holywells Park?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Which common butterfly species is named after a bright blue bird with a large fan tail?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Which small deer species can often be seen on the islands at Christchurch Park?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Which black and white birds which bob around whilst they walk can often be seen on the high street in Ipswich?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Ipswich has a good population of which spikey animal? If you are lucky you may see one in your garden (but only at night!)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7 On Cliff Lane there is a tunnel under the road designed to help which brown warty amphibian to cross the road without getting squashed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Which legless lizards can often be found in compost heaps in our parks and gardens and in Ipswich?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Which birds live in a nest box on the Orwell Bridge and on top of the mill? (hint: they are the fastest birds in the world!)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Which black and white butterfly can only be found locally at Landseer Park in Ipswich?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1 Tawny Owl, 2 Kingfisher, 3 Peacock Butterfly, 4 Muntjac Deer, 5 Pied Wagtail, 6 Hedgehog, 7 Common Toad, 8 Slow Worm, 9 Peregrine Falcon, 10 Marbled White Butterfly

# ACTIVITY 2

## Wildlife wordsearch

Age  
10 - 15

This wordsearch is full of the names of native British Wildlife which can all be found in Suffolk! Can you find them all in the wordsearch and out in the wild?



H	A	R	E	P	L	A	G	S	O	W	B
T	V	O	J	G	I	Q	S	W	M	E	A
L	G	B	X	A	T	F	Y	A	S	N	D
A	O	I	B	T	T	L	R	N	E	E	G
D	Q	N	M	B	L	N	O	R	A	L	E
Y	E	R	I	K	E	R	W	P	U	O	R
B	H	E	D	G	E	H	O	G	G	V	O
I	C	S	E	H	G	H	W	A	L	R	B
R	A	T	Y	Q	R	A	B	H	E	E	T
D	R	E	F	S	E	M	O	F	N	T	A
Y	R	I	H	V	T	D	H	X	E	A	O
G	F	R	S	B	I	C	A	D	W	W	T
Y	E	X	B	A	R	N	O	W	L	Q	S
W	T	T	L	I	H	R	X	Q	O	W	X
G	R	E	Y	S	Q	U	I	R	R	E	L
F	Q	R	E	H	S	I	F	G	N	I	K



Grey Heron  
Robin  
Kingfisher  
Little Egret

Swan  
Shrew  
Hedgehog  
Grey Squirrel

Hare  
Barn Owl  
Fox  
Stoat

Water Vole  
Ladybird  
Badger  
Wren



# ACTIVITY 3

## The bird beak game

Age  
10 - 15

In the UK, we have over 600 species of native bird! But they don't all eat the same foods, they have developed and evolved to eat different foods so that they are not competing and can live side by side. This is called adaptation. Birds have developed different beak shapes to eat these different foods. But how do different beaks relate to different food types? This game will show you how!

### You will need:

#### To make habitats:

- 2 buckets
- A table
- Log or item with holes in (always ask permission first)
- Water
- Floating and non-floating foodstuffs
- Rice/popcorn to insert into holes
- Sweets

#### To make beaks:

- Tongs
- Tweezers
- Pliers
- Tea strainer or small sieve
- 2 wooden spoons
- Other utensils that look like a bird's beak

For this game, we will be making the beaks of different birds from different habitats, focusing on the Pond Surface, Pond Margins, Woodlands and Meadows. These habitats will be identified by the items below:

**Pond surface** = Bucket or container with water and surface floating objects.

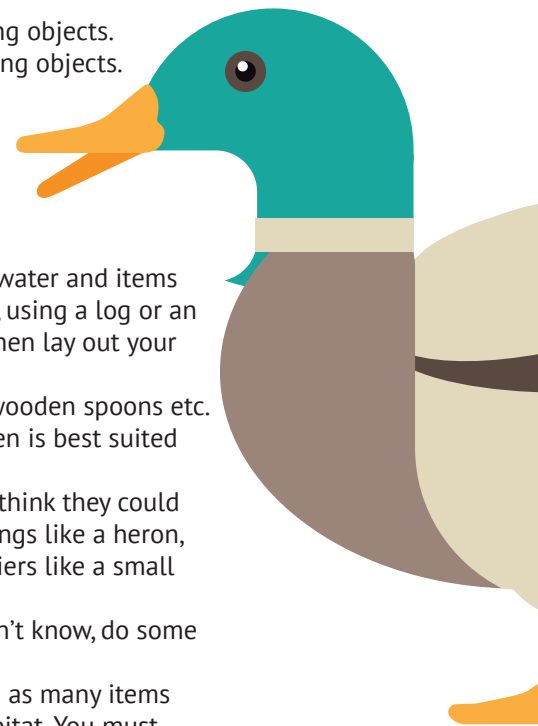
**Pond margins** = Bucket with water and raisins or other non-floating objects.

**Woodland** = Log with holes and rice/popcorn to put into holes.

**Meadow** = Sweets laid out on a table.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Create your habitats as mentioned above – use a bucket with water and items floating on top, use another bucket with items that don't float, using a log or an item with holes in fill the holes with rice or popcorn kernels then lay out your sweets on the table (try to resist eating them for now!).
- 2 Select your items that will be your beaks i.e. tongs, tweezers, wooden spoons etc. Your aim is to work out which habitat the beak you have chosen is best suited too.
- 3 Think about the shape of the items and what kind of bird you think they could be. Hint – the two wooden spoons could be a spoonbill, the tongs like a heron, tweezers like a woodpecker, the tea strainer like a duck, the pliers like a small garden bird etc.
- 4 Then think about what kind of foods those birds eat. If you don't know, do some research in a bird book or online.
- 5 Now, using your different beaks, for 30 seconds try and pick up as many items as you can and remove them from their container for each habitat. You must keep one hand behind your back at all times and not get your hand wet (only the beak should go in the water). Try each beak on each item and make a note of which beaks were easier to pick up items from which habitat.





# ACTIVITY 3

## The bird beak game

Age  
10 - 15

	WOODLAND (Deadwood) rice/kernels wedged in holes	FRESHWATER (Pond Surface) floating items	FRESHWATER (Pond margin/ marsh) non-floating items	GRASSLAND (sweets)
SHORT PLIERS (garden bird like a Bullfinch)				
TEA STRAINER (duck like a Mallard)				
SALAD TONGS (Egret or Heron)				
TWEEZERS (Woodpecker)				
WOODEN SPOONS (Spoonbill)				

### ANSWERS:

**You should have found it easiest using the tweezers to get the food out of the small holes. This is like a woodpecker pecking into some old dead wood to get insects out. Here are some adaptations of woodpeckers that help them eat this food source:**

- Long, sharp, "chisel" bill for hammering into tree trunks.
- Stiff tail feathers used as prop to hold the bird upright on the side of the tree.
- Long tongue that wraps around inside of skull - aids in extracting insects.
- Toes - two face forward, two face backward for better vertical support on tree trunk.
- Long flexible barbed tongue for extracting insects from deep within cavities.

**You should have found that the pliers were good for picking up the sweets on the table (the grassland habitat). This is like a Bullfinch eating seeds from small plants. Other adaptations that help birds like Bullfinches are:**

- Heavy, conical bill with sharp edges for splitting seeds open. Strong jaw muscles.
- Flocking behaviour in winter because food may be concentrated in fields or "weed" patches.

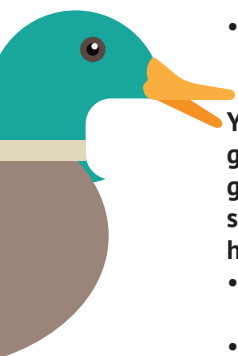
- Toes - three face forward, one behind for perching and hopping.

**You should have found that the tea strainer was the best for collecting items floating on top of the water. This is like ducks which dabble to eat foods from the surface of the water.**

- Fringed or fluted bill for straining food from the water.
- Webbed feet for propulsion through water. Also act as "snowshoes on mud."
- Legs short, far back on body for swimming.

You should have found that the spoons and the tongs were the best for collecting items that had sunk to the bottom of the water. This is because the beaks are long and help to reach right to the bottom of the pond to eat fish, frogs, insects etc.

- Long neck for plunging into water.
- Sharp bill for spearing fish.
- Long toes for walking on mud and grasping clumps of vegetation.
- Coloration for blending into marsh vegetation.



# ACTIVITY 4

## Create a wildlife themed game

Age  
10 - 15

**For this fun activity you can create a game to play with your whole family. You could even send your friends a copy of your game and play against each other online.**

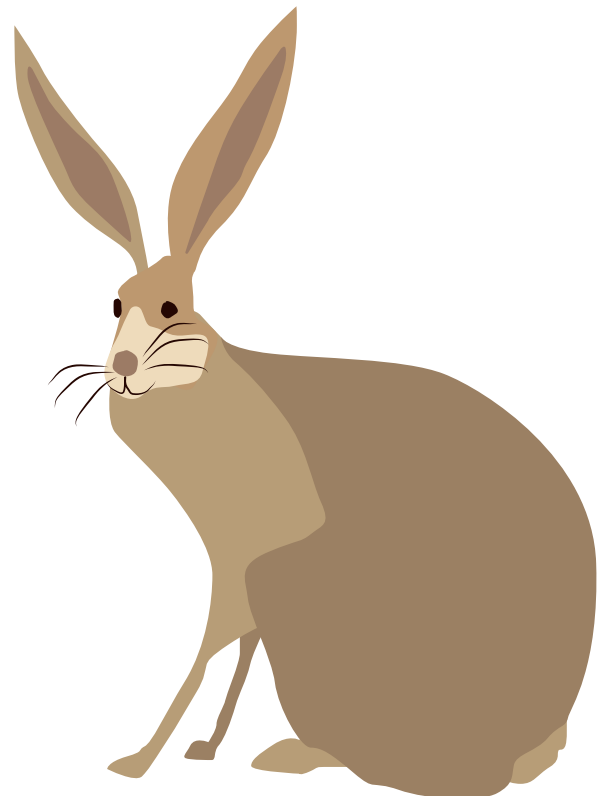
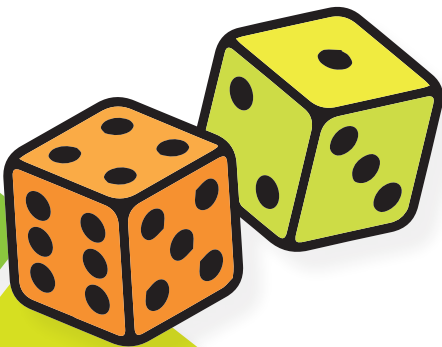
For this activity, you need to get your thinking cap on and design a game based around UK wildlife. It could be as simple as redesigning a well-loved game like snakes and ladders and substituting snakes for slow worms. You could create wildlife top trumps or make chess pieces into different UK animals (ie the King could be a badger, the Queen a fox etc) or you can create a new game all of your own invention!



### Here are a few ideas:

The UK has loads of amazing wildlife so there are lots of fun games that the wildlife might like to play. Think about the kind of behaviours that animals have for example, foxes are sneaky so you may have a game with lots of surprises like miss a turn or go back 10 spaces, hares are really fast so you could have hop forward 10 spaces. Let your imagination go wild and see what fun games you can come up with!

**We would love to see your wildlife themed games! Share photos of you and your family playing your game on social media by getting an adult to tag us @ipswichgov or #ipswichparklife. You could even share a photo of your game with instructions on how to play, or make your own on our social media channels so other children like you can play too!**





# ACTIVITY 5

## British butterfly quiz

Age  
10 - 15

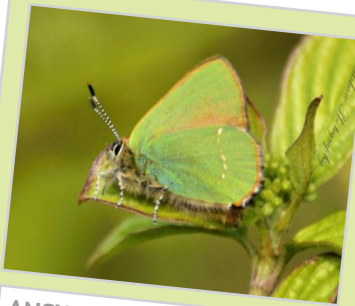
How good is your knowledge of our British Butterflies? There are 59 butterfly species in the UK, 35 of which can be seen in Suffolk! Here are 6 easy-to-learn butterflies found in Ipswich. Don't worry if you don't know them all now, get out there this summer and see how many species you can identify.

1



ANSWER

2



ANSWER

3



ANSWER

4



ANSWER

5



ANSWER

6



ANSWER

Answers: 1 Brimstone, 2 Green Hairstreak, 3 Peacock, 4 Orange Tip, 5 Small Copper, 6 Comma

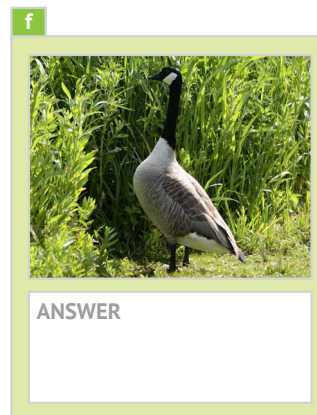
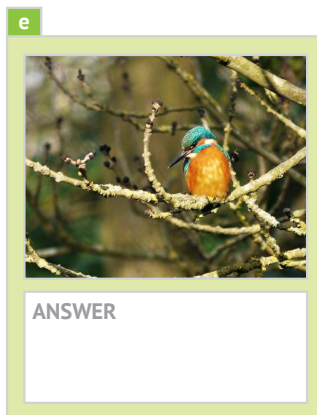
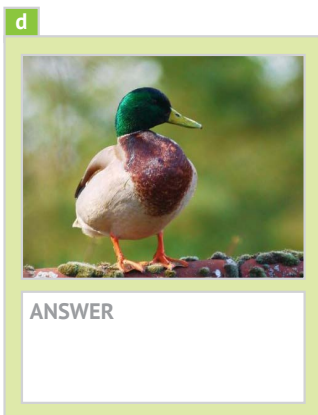
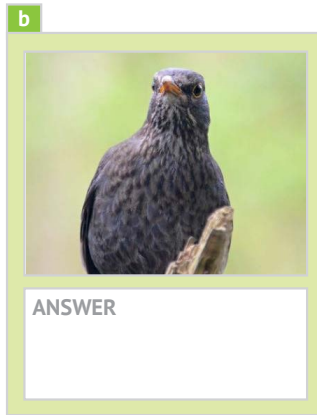
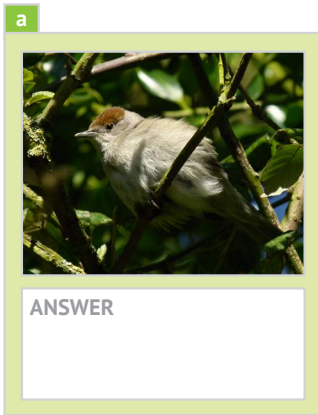
# ACTIVITY 6

## Wild bird quiz

Age  
10 - 15

Can you answer all the questions in this UK bird themed quiz? Don't worry if you don't know the answer, you can always learn something new and do some research! All these birds can be found in Ipswich, so why not see if you can spot them around town.

- 1 Which is the UK's (and world's) fastest bird?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Which is the UK's smallest bird?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Which black and white bird with a curved bill features on the logo of the RSPB and can be found on the banks of the Orwell Estuary?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Which garden bird's call sounds like they are shouting "teacher"?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 How do you tell the difference between a male and female Kingfisher?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Can you identify these 6 bird species?



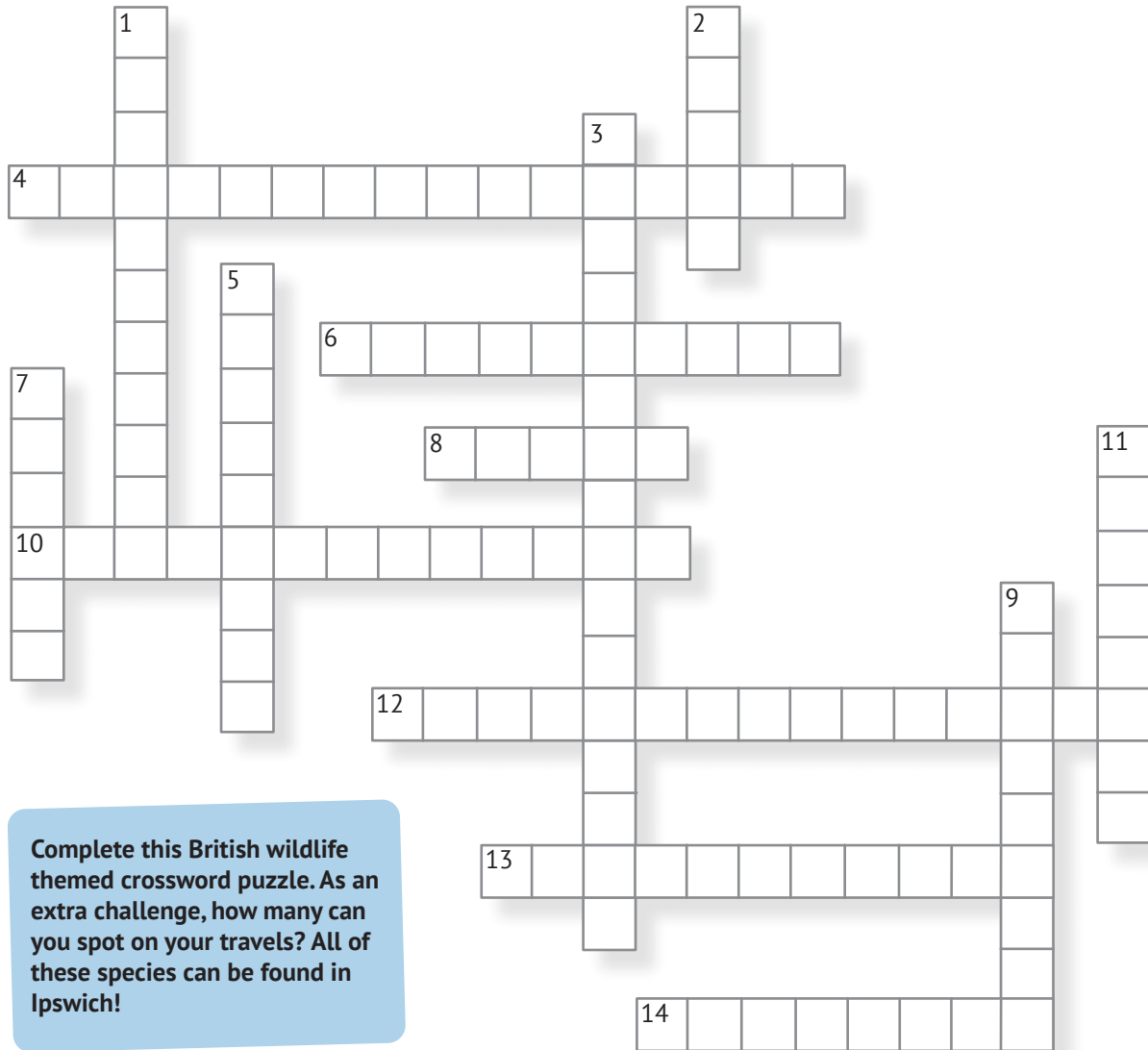
Answers: 1 Peregrine Falcon, 2 Goldcrest, 3 Avocet, 4 Great Tit, 5 The lower part of the female's beak is orange/red with a black tip, 6a Female blackcap, b Female blackbird, c Little Egret, d Male Mallard, e Male Kingfisher, f Canada Goose



# ACTIVITY 7

## Nature crossword

For the whole family



Complete this British wildlife themed crossword puzzle. As an extra challenge, how many can you spot on your travels? All of these species can be found in Ipswich!

### Across

- 4** A plant with a Spanish cousin that grows from a bulb
- 6** A typical fairytale mushroom
- 8** A bird typically thought of at Christmas
- 10** A small non-native species from America that eats nuts
- 12** A lobster-like creature with red claws
- 13** An amphibian with an orange belly and a continuous crest on its back
- 14** A round chubby rodent that nests curled up in a ball

### Down

- 1** An insect with the head of the UK's largest mammal
- 2** The UK's only venomous reptile
- 3** The fastest bird in the world
- 5** A brown owl found in woodlands
- 7** A black, white and grey mammal found in the UK
- 9** A small animal that needs holes in fences the size of a CD case
- 11** A butterfly the colour of butter

# ACTIVITY 8

## Make wildlife top trumps

Age  
10 - 15

**Top trumps are a great way to learn more about the strengths and weaknesses of an animal, and it's fun too!**

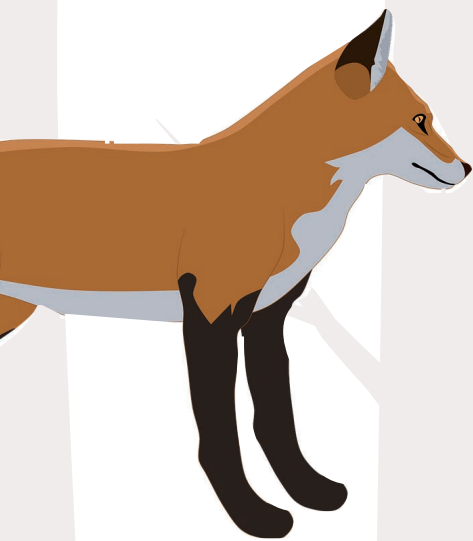
All you need is some paper or card, some pens and a couple of books (or use the internet) for information about animals.

First set your categories, think about things like size, speed, how much they eat, if they travel long distances, if they are ferocious. Then score each animal based on your research, for example a shrew might not be very ferocious, but they do eat a lot!

Hedgehogs can even travel up to 2km a night during the breeding season so think about their behaviour and what they get up to.

Then design your cards and get playing! For an extra game, take your top trumps with you on your next visit to your local park and see how many of your species you can see!

**The game is totally yours to design so be creative. You could even create multiple top trump games, one for mammals, one for insects, one for pond life, one for birds etc.**





# ACTIVITY 9

## Wildlife charades

Age  
10 - 15

Just like normal charades, this activity is a fun game to play with the family, except you will be acting out animals found in the UK.

You will need at least one other person to play, but this can be a great game for the whole family! The aim is to act out the animal you are given without making any noise and you cannot spell out the name. Think about the way they behave and look and replicate this so your family can guess which animal you are.

**To start the game, let them know if it is a mammal, a bird or an insect using the following actions:**

For mammals, use your fingers to draw whiskers on your cheeks.

For a bird, put your thumbs together and flap your hands like a bird.

For an insect, use your finger and inch it like a caterpillar.

Here is a list of animals to try:

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Fox          | 10 Peacock Butterfly     |
| 2 Red Squirrel | 11 Owl                   |
| 3 Badger       | 12 Red Admiral Butterfly |
| 4 Grey Heron   | 13 Bush Cricket          |
| 5 Hare         | 14 Otter                 |
| 6 Hedgehog     | 15 Ladybird              |
| 7 Mouse        | 16 Spider                |
| 8 Mallard      | 17 Crab                  |
| 9 Kingfisher   |                          |



For an extra challenge, try acting out animals doing activities

- 1 A fox playing golf
- 2 An owl skydiving
- 3 A squirrel fencing
- 4 A weasel dancing
- 5 A hedgehog gardening
- 6 A ladybird mowing the grass

Be creative and add your own ideas to the list! Have fun!

