

BRITAIN'S WILDLIFE AND HABITATS

Since the 1940s Britain's wildlife and their habitats have suffered large scale losses and damage mainly through farming, road-building, housing and industrial developments and over-use of food like fish.

So what is a habitat? It is the place or type of a site where a plant or animal naturally occurs.

Examples of habitats include heathland and ancient woodland (400 years old) – can you name some more?
See bottom of the page for answers.

In this activity you are going to find out the habitat of the following animals and plants; bluebell, sand lizard, basking shark, barn owl, cod, otter, red squirrel, kingfisher, heather, blackbird. Don't forget some of these animals can be found in more than one habitat.

To do this ask an adult to help you find the animal or plant in an encyclopaedia or a book about nature (TIP: look in your school or local library) and look for how its habitat is described.

What are the key differences between the different types of habitats?
To answer this question think about whether the animal or plant is on land and what other types of animals and plants are also found there.

Which of the animals and plants featured in the list is your favourite?

My favourite is

Why not draw your favourite animal in its natural habitat?