

Who Am I? Lesson Plan

This activity links with the Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife principle of Leave No Trace

Activity: Learn about Irish wildlife through a simple guessing game

Learning Objectives: Investigate Irish wildlife and farm animals and how we can respect them in the natural environment

Links to Curriculum:

SESE Geography Strand: Natural Environments, Strand Unit: The Local Natural Environment

SESE Science Strand: Living Things, Strand Unit: Plants and Animals

SESE Geography and Science Strand: Environmental Awareness and Care, Strand Unit: Caring for My Locality

Time: Introduction 10 minutes, Activity 20 minutes and Wrap-up 10 minutes

Materials: A list of the Who Am I? Questions included below, a copy of the habitat image for each pupil, crayons, colouring pencils or markers

Method:

1. Explain to students that we will be playing a guessing game about animals, but instead of calling out the answers we are going to draw them on our sheet
2. Distribute a copy of the habitat image to each student
3. Explain that you will call out the clues and that they have to guess what animal it is and draw them on their sheet
4. Call out each riddle below, give the class a few minutes after each one to guess what the animal is and to draw it in on their sheet
5. As a class, discuss what the answer to each riddle is
6. Have they ever seen any of these animals before? If so where did they see them? How did it make them feel? (e.g. surprised, excited)



Reflection:

Is it important to protect animals? Why?

Are there actions we can take to respect farm animals and wildlife when using the outdoors?

Further Investigation:

Complete the Who Am I? Quiz to wrap up the lesson.

Students can encourage wildlife in the school grounds by:

- Building an insect hotel
- Making a bird feeder out of recycled milk or juice cartons



Who Am I? Questions

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I live in an underground tunnel system called a sett,
I am a nocturnal animal which means I only come out at night,
I eat slugs, beetles and lots of earthworms!
You would recognise me by the white stripe that runs down my head

Answer: Badger

I make my home in woodlands and hedgerows,
I like munching on all types of bugs: worms, slugs, earwigs and spiders,
I am a nocturnal animal so you won't see me out during the day,
You would recognise me by my prickly exterior!

Answer: Hedgehog

I am an arboreal animal which means I spend most of my time in trees,
I even make my nest in trees but I'm not a bird!
I have sharp front teeth that I use to split hazelnuts and tease seeds out of pinecones,
I have a long bushy tail that helps me keep my balance when I'm running up and down trees!

Answer: Squirrel

My name in Irish, Madra Uisce, means water dog,
As my name suggests I am an excellent swimmer!
I make my home on riverbanks, lakeshores and coastal areas,
I love munching on fish, eels and frogs

Answer: Otter

I am an amphibian which means I am cold blooded,
I make my home in nice moist places such as ponds, marshes or long grass,
My long back legs mean I am an excellent jumper!

Answer: Frog

I have no arms or legs!
I live in tunnels I create in the soil,
Although I have no eyes, my body can sense changes in light,
I eat the remains of leaves and plants in the soil

Answer: Earthworm



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Even though I am an insect, I'm covered in fur!
I live in a colony with many others,
I love eating nectar and pollen which I get from flowers,
You would recognise me from the bold stripes on my body

Answer: Bumblebee

I am a large bird that only comes out at night,
I make my nest in barns, chimneys and in the attics of buildings and churches,
I eat field mice, brown rats and frogs,
You would recognise me by my white heart shaped face!

Answer: Barn Owl

I am a well known Irish songbird,
I love eating seeds, berries and insects,
People always admire my bright red breast,
I often appear on Christmas cards!

Answer: Robin

You can usually find me on a farm,
I have a thick fleece on my body that keeps me nice and warm in winter,
I even star in several well known nursery rhymes!

Answer: Sheep

I am also a well known farm animal,
I am covered in black and white markings that are unique to me!
I provide milk which is used to make cheese, butter and yoghurt

Answer: Cow

For more information on the Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife principle and the other Leave No Trace principles visit:

www.leavenotraceireland.org

