Forestry England

Twilight activities

Have fun completing these activities and learn about night-time forest animals.

What can you spot at dusk in your garden?

Step into your garden to see the animals in their natural habitat.

There are 16 different species of bat found in Britain, and many of them roost or hunt in and among trees. The most common bat is called the pipistrelle bat.

How many words can you make using the letters in the words:

PIPISTRELLE BAT

Here are a few to get you started: taste, little, strap, let.

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

Try it!

If you were a hedgehog, would you be able to find your food by smell?

Hedgehogs have a fantastic sense of smell, so they are able to sniff out the beetles and worms that they like to eat.

Ask a friend to find five foods in the kitchen. **Wearing a blindfold**, see if you can work out what all of the foods are just by sniffing them.

Owls have big eyes...

giving them excellent night vision, so they are able to see mice and other prey in the semi-dark, from a long way away.

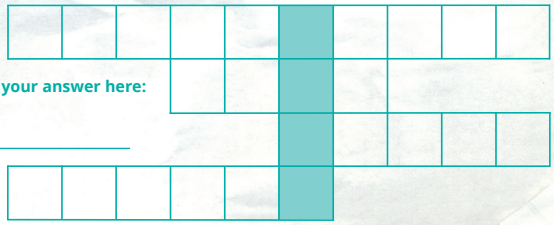
If you were an owl, would you be able to spot your prey?

Cut out a mouse shape, approx. 7cm from nose to start of tail, and colour it the same colour as the grass or soil; put the mouse on the ground and take 20 steps back. Can you can spot it? If this is too easy, try it again in the dark!

Try it!

There are five species of owl found in Britain, and many of them make their homes in the forest. Put these four owl names into the grid, then rearrange the letters in the shaded squares, to spell somewhere that is a good nesting place for an owl.

Little, Short eared, Barn, Tawny



Write your answer here:

_____

Answer: Tree

Turn over for more activities

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Who am I?

How many clues do you need before you guess the animal?

1	3	6
Expert	V good	Good

1. I eat earthworms, slugs and snails, and sometimes small mammals.
2. I am about 70cm long.
3. My babies are called cubs.
4. I have poor eyesight, but excellent senses of hearing and smell.
5. I live in a sett.
6. I am black and white and grey.

Answer: badger

1. I have excellent senses of hearing and smell.
2. I can run at 30 miles per hour (that's as fast as you drive through town).
3. I live in an underground burrow or den (sometimes called an earth)
4. I eat small mammals, but I also like fruits, berries and even food from bins.
5. My mother is called a vixen and my father is called a dog.
6. I am reddish brown.

Answer: fox

Fact!
Even if an animal is usually nocturnal, it is sometimes seen during the daytime or evening. Animals which are particularly active at dawn or dusk are known as 'crepuscular'.

Word search

Animals which are mostly active at night are described as 'nocturnal'. Those which are mostly active during the daytime are known as 'diurnal'.

Find the ten animals in the wordsearch then decide whether they are nocturnal or diurnal.

Animals to find

BAT, OWL, ROBIN, MOUSE, BADGER, HEDGEHOG, FOX, MOTH, HUMAN, BUTTERFLY

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

I think these animals are **nocturnal**

Answers: bat, badger, hedgehog, owl, fox, moth

I think these animals are **diurnal**

Answers: human, robin, butterfly, mouse

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