

Animal Descriptions

- 1. I have a black bill (females have an orangey-red patch at the base).The striking mix of my bright-blue, back and metallic copper breast makes me unmistakable. I can be seen by rivers and streams, sitting quietly on low-hanging branches over the water, before suddenly diving in to catch a small fish. I burrow into banks to make my nests.**
- 2. I am a grey-brown, with an orange belly and black spots all over. In the breeding season, males have a smooth crest running the full length of my body. I am an amphibian, so in Spring, I breed in ponds, then spend the rest of the year feeding on invertebrates in the woodland, hedgerows, marshes and tussocky grassland.**
- 3. I am mostly green, but sometimes have brownish sides. I live in the damp meadows, the woodlands and the hillside pastures. I am heard, more than I am seen. I make a 'song' by rubbing my legs against my wings. This 'song' sounds a bit like the ticking of a bicycle free wheeling..tick tick tick tick.....!.**
- 4. I am very easy to identify, and can be found in lots of places. I have a red body with seven black spots. I am very good to have in the garden, as I eat lots of garden pests, particularly Aphids. I can be encouraged to live in your garden by putting up a bug-box. During the Winter, I hibernate in hollow plant stems and cavities, sometimes clustering together in large numbers.**

5. I prefer to live in damp habitats, including gardens, hedgerows, woodland and grasslands. My shell varies from dark to light brown, and helps me to camouflage myself. I can be further identified by a dark brown band around the opening.
6. I am known for my long, black-tipped ears and fast running – I can reach speeds of 45mph when evading predators. I prefer a mosaic of farmland and woodland habitats and can usually be spotted in fields.
7. I have a small, blunt nose, small ears and a furry tail, and I look quite like a brown rat. I can be found among the waterways. Sadly, I am under serious threat from habitat loss and predation by the non-native American mink.
8. I am a stocky, brown mammal with velvety fur, a stumpy tail and small eyes. I spend my life burrowing underground with my spade-like paws, hunting for earthworms to eat. I am responsible for the brown mounds of earth that can decorate your lawn. These often make gardeners angry, but I am actually really helpful, as I eat grubs that live on agricultural plants, and help to drain the soil.
9. I am very small with a distinctively pointy nose and tiny eyes. I live life in the fast lane, eating every 2-3 hours to survive, and only living for a year or so. Look out for me in your garden.

10. I am the gardener's best friend! I will happily Hoover up those pesky slugs. I am famously covered in spines, and mostly come out at night. I will find somewhere warm to hibernate over winter.
11. I am an impressively large and colourful invertebrate, and mostly seen by ponds, lakes, canals and flooded gravel pits. I can be seen flying between June and August, and I even eats my prey on the wing.
12. I am a very distinctive and well-known creature. I have been immortalised in stories and legends for my cunning and stealth. I am orangey-red , with a famously bushy tail, and can be seen in town and country, day and night.
13. I have black-and-white stripes, and I am one of the most iconic species in the UK, and our biggest land predator. I am quite a common species, turning up in people's gardens, as well as inhabiting woodland, farmland and grassland.
14. I am so small, I can fit into a matchbox! Despite my size, I can easily eat 3,000 insects a night. Look out for me flitting around the garden or a lit lamp post as I chase my prey.
15. I have a distinctive heart-shaped face, pure white feathers, and ghostly flight. I hunt on silent wings, swooping down on my prey unannounced. Undisturbed by the sound of my wings, I listen out for the rustling of small mammals in the grass. Look out for me flying low over fields and hedgerows at dawn and dusk.

16. I am a I am smaller than a pigeon, and a familiar sight hovering over the side of the road, looking out for my favourite food: small mammals like field voles. I prefer open habitats like grassland, farmland and heathland, but can be seen in towns and villages. I nest in holes in trees, old buildings, and even abandoned crow's nests.
17. I am a very well-known amphibian, and a regular visitor to garden ponds across the country, helping to clear out pesky slugs and snails. I vary in colour, from green to brown, and even red or yellow. I have smooth skin and long back legs. I hop rather than walk. In winter, I hibernate in pond mud or under log piles.
18. I was introduced into the UK in the 1800s. I can be seen in woodland, and often in people's gardens. I am quite bold, and can be seen taking food from bird feeders. Unfortunately, I can be quite damaging to woodland!
19. Despite my warts and ancient associations with witches, I am a gardener's friend, sucking up slugs and snails. I have olive-brown, warty skin, copper eyes and short back legs, and I walk rather than hop. I hibernate over winter, often under log piles, stones, or even old flower pots!
20. I am one of the most well recognised waterbirds, and famous for my grace and beauty. I am all white, with an orange bill with a black 'knob' at the base. I feed on plants, and can be seen on canals, lakes and rivers.

