



Activities to try at home

In the absence of being able to meet for our weekly CST sessions, we've put together a few activities that you can try at home. We hope you are keeping safe and well. Please see the separately attached document for the answers to quiz questions.

This week's theme is: British Wildlife





**Can you unscramble the letters to make the name of a bird, animal or insect?
After this, have a go at sorting them into their groups.**

1. AZDLIR

2. EEB

3. LGAE E

4. SUMOE

5. SWAP

6. TIBBRA

7. LOW

8. WROLOSWM

9. ESSOGHRPAPR

10. LOVE

11. KANES

12. WAKH

Mammals

Reptiles

Birds

Insects



Try matching the collective noun to the animals it is describing.



1. A _____ of bees
2. A _____ of bats
3. A _____ of geese (when on the ground)
4. A _____ of crows
5. A _____ of owls
6. A _____ of seagulls
7. A _____ of snakes
8. A _____ of jays
9. A _____ of butterflies
10. An _____ of larks
11. A _____ of goldfinches
12. A _____ of starlings

CHARM

COLONY

KALEIDOSCOPE

PARLIAMENT

EXALTATION

GAGGLE

MURDER

NEST

MURMURATION

SQUABBLE

SWARM

SCOLD

Can you complete the book titles with the names of British wild birds or animals? Many are also films.

1. The Very Hungry _____

Eric Carle

2. Of _____ and Men

John Steinbeck

3. The Tale of Peter _____

Beatrice Potter

4. Fantastic Mr _____

Roald Dahl

5. Lord of the _____

William Golding

6. The Silence of the _____

Thomas Harris

7. H is for _____

Helen Macdonald

8. _____ Hall

Hilary Mantel

9. Along came a _____

James Patterson

10. One Flew Over The _____ Nest

Ken Kesey



11. _____ and Amazons

12. Tarka the _____

13. Wild _____

14. The Maltese _____

15. The Girl Who Kicked the _____ Nest

16. The Secret Life of _____

17. The _____ Who Was Afraid of the Dark

18. _____ Rise to Candleford

19. The Taming of the _____

20. The Tortoise and the _____

Arthur Ransome

Henry Williamson

Jung Chang

Dashiell Hammet

Stieg Larsson

Sue Monk Kidd

Jill Tomlinson

Flora Thompson

William Shakespeare

Aesop



Beatrix Potter

'I wonder if, like me, you were brought up with the enchanting books of Beatrix Potter, the most famous of which is 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit'. She was an English writer, illustrator, natural scientist and conservationist, best known for her children's books about animals. She was educated by governesses and grew up isolated from other children. She spent holidays in Scotland and the Lake District, developing a love for landscape, flora and fauna. She wrote 30 books, and from the proceeds and a legacy from an aunt, she bought Hill Top Farm in the Lake District. When she died, aged 77, she left almost all her property to the National Trust.' - Pauline



Do you know which animal each of the following characters is?

1. Mrs Tiggy-Winkle

2. Mr Tod

3. Samuel Whiskers

4. Nutkin

5. Miss Moppet

6. Jemima

7. Jeremy Fisher

8. Little Robinson

9. Hunca Munca and Tom Thumb

10. The Flopsy family



British garden birds. How many of these have you seen in your garden?



Blackbird



Blue Tit



Bullfinch



Chaffinch



Collared dove



Goldfinch



Great Tit



Green Woodpecker



Greenfinch



House Martin



House Sparrow



Jay



Long Tailed Tit



Magpie



Nuthatch



Pheasant



Pied Wagtail



Robin



Song Thrush



Starling



Swallow



Wood Pigeon



Wren



Yellowhammer

For more beautiful bird pictures, try the RSPB website:

<https://www.birdspot.co.uk/bird-identification>

Garden Visitors

Pat

Sitting in the garden enjoying the beautiful sunshine has been a real pleasure over the last few weeks. We have enjoyed watching the birds in the garden in particularly these cute little Blue Tits who have built their home on the side of our house. They are so busy going backwards and forwards to get food to feed their young. Isn't nature amazing.



Have you seen birds in your garden, nearby your house, or perhaps on a walk?

Do you have a bird feeder or bird bath in your garden?

Are there types of birds that you like and types of birds you don't like?

Wildlife in the News

New mum for orphaned lambs

Three 4-week-old orphaned lambs. Prince, Dewdrop and George have found a new mum - Heidi a 10-year-old pony. When they were put in Heidi's field, she lay down with them and, from there, they started standing underneath her. Her maternal instincts kicked in and she started licking them, then produced a little milk to feed them. The lambs also get bottle fed 3 times a day.



Recall of the Wild

Lockdown has been very good for some wildlife. Cuckoos, falcons and even killer whales have been spotted venturing into new areas of land and sea, after becoming emboldened by the peace and quiet of lockdown. Peregrine falcons are nesting in the ruins of Corfe Castle in Dorset, partridges wander in an empty car park in Cambridge and a cuckoo is calling at Osterley in West London. Killer whales were spotted last Friday in County Down Northern Island, whilst albino badgers have been seen in Cliveden, Berkshire. Not all creatures have enjoyed the lockdown however with peacocks at Powys castle in Wales now following the gardeners around in the absence of visitors, whilst the jackdaws at Ham House, who enjoy feeding off scraps of food dropped by people, have not returned to the historic property since the lockdown started.



Peregrine falcon at Corfe Castle

Poetry

The Secret Song by Margaret Wise Brown

Who saw the petals
drop from the rose?
I, said the spider,
But nobody knows.



Who saw the sunset
flash on a bird?
I, said the fish,
But nobody heard.



Who saw the fog
come over the sea?
I, said the pigeon,
Only me.

Who saw the first
green light of the sun?
I, said the night owl,
The only one.



Who saw the moss
creep over the stone?
I, said the grey fox,
All alone.

The Cuckoo Anon

The cuckoo is a merry bird,
He sings as he flies,
He brings us glad tidings,
And tells us no lies.

He sucks the birds' eggs
To make his voice clear,
And the more he cries "Cuckoo!"
The summer draws near

The cuckoo is a lazy bird,
She never builds a nest,
She makes herself busy
By singing to the rest;

She never hatches her own young
And that we all know
But leaves it for some other bird
While she cries" Cuckoo!"

And when her time is come
Her voice we no longer hear,
And where she goes, we do not know
Until another year.

The cuckoo comes in April,
She sings a song in May.
In June she beats upon the drum,
And then she'll fly away.



The Robin and the Cows Anon

The robin sings in the elm;
The cattle stand beneath,
Sedate and grave with great brown eyes,
And fragrant meadow-breath.

They listen to the flattered bird,
The wise-looking, stupid things!
And they never understand a word
Of all the robin sings.

Minnows by John Keats

Swarms of minnows show their little heads,
Staying their wavy bodies 'gainst the streams,
To taste the luxury of sunny beams
Tempered with coolness. How they ever wrestle
With their own sweet delight, and ever nestle
Their silver bellies on the pebbly sand.
If you but scantily hold out the hand,
That very instant not one will remain;
But turn your eye, and they are there again.
The ripples seem right glad to reach those cresses,
And cool themselves among the em'rald tresses;
And while they cool themselves, they freshness give,
And moisture, that the bowery green may live.



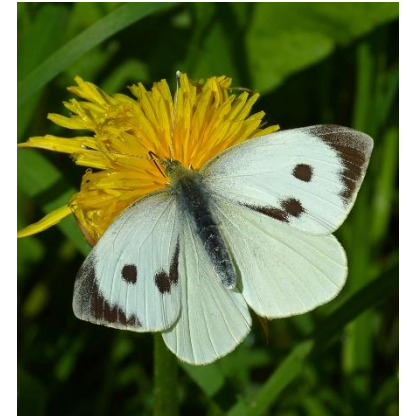
"The White Owl" from "Love in the Valley" by George Meredith

Lovely are the curves of the white owl sweeping
Wavy in the dusk lit by one large star.
Lone on the fir-branch, his rattle-note unvaried,
Brooding o'er the gloom, spins the brown eve-jar.



Flying Crooked by Robert Graves

The butterfly, a cabbage-white,
(His honesty idiocy of flight)
Will never now, it is too late,
Master the art of flying straight.
Yet has – who knows so well as I? –
A just sense of how not to fly;
He lurches here and here by guess
And God and hope and hopelessness.
Even the aerobatic swift
Has not his flying-crooked gift.



Wildlife Quiz



1. There are 3 snakes native to the British Isles. One is the smooth snake. What are the other 2?
2. How many worms can a badger eat? 200 a day/200 a week/200 a month?
3. The saying 'as blind as a bat' is not true. Name an animal that has very poor eyesight.
4. What do we call a badger's home?
5. What type of owl has a heart shaped face?
6. Only the Queen bumblebee survives the winter. True or false?
7. What do we call a female fox?
8. Which farm animal comes top for intelligence?
9. Which is the only deer indigenous to Britain - Roe/ Fallow/ Muntjac?
10. What do we call a baby hedgehog?
11. Who owns all the mute swans in Britain?
12. Which woodland bird is sometimes called a yaffle? (Clue: think of Bagpuss the children's TV programme)



‘Wild-Life’ at Home

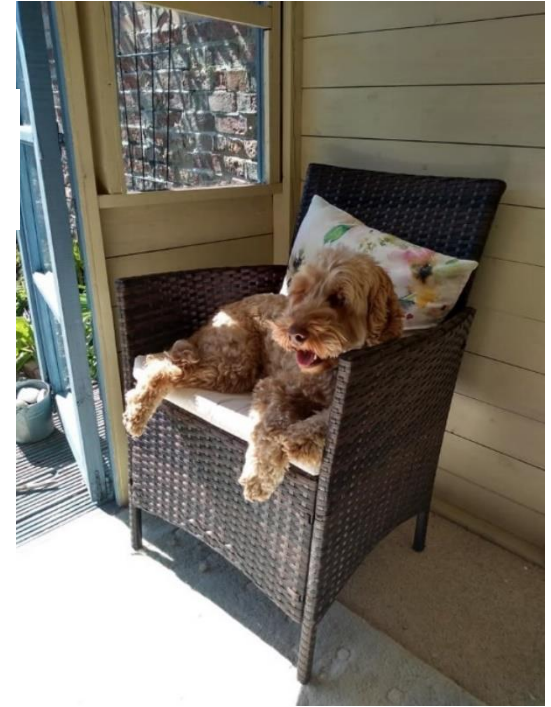
Though pets aren’t wild animals, we wanted to acknowledge them this week, particularly to honour their companionship during lockdown.

Marion

Poppy is a cockapoo, crazy as a box of frogs when she wants to be! They're called Velcro dogs and yes, she definitely is, if I move, she follows me... even to the loo! She has crazy times when she runs out into the garden, shoots back in, then goes round the house like a lunatic, in and out for about 5 minutes. Then she's flat out... she's a nutcase, but she's my nutcase.

Flora

My first ever ‘pet’ was a tank of Sea Monkeys – which were brine shrimp that some genius had cleverly marketed to children as exciting creatures. We later adopted 2 lovely cats from Yorkshire. Their names were Henry and Dave and we had them for many years. A few weeks after Dave had died, a small black and white kitten turned up in our garden and after reporting her to all the relevant people, the RSPCA confirmed she was a stray and said we could keep her, which we did. ‘Kitten’ fell in love with Henry – who put up with her – and she’s gladly still part of our family. She demands to be played with, scratches the furniture, is fussy about her food, and is very much loved. How do they get away with it!?



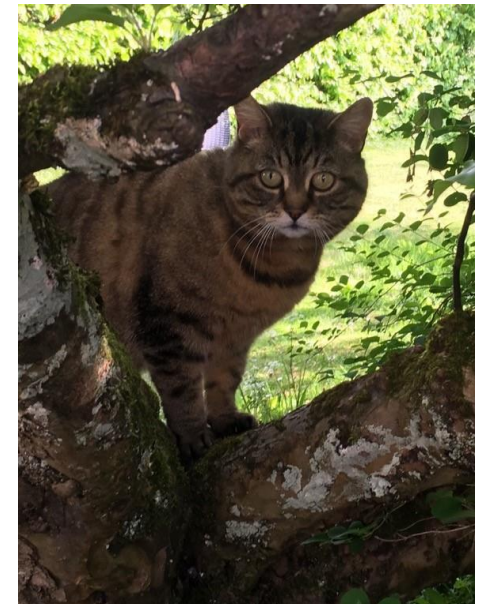
Pauline's cat Reuben



Seven years ago, a very small, ginger kitten turned up outside my back door. It was cold and raining and he was soaked and shivering. I took him in and next day made posters to put round the village, but nobody claimed him. He was not micro chipped, and the vet reckoned he was about 6 months old and may have been abandoned, so he joined my family. Sweet little kittens grow up however, in this case into a big, feisty ginger Tom. He has a character all his own and a penchant for hunting mice and staying out and sleeping rough for days on end. Unfortunately for my bank balance he is accident prone, bursting through the cat flap battle scarred and wounded, with half his ear hanging off and dripping blood or limping with a great gash in his leg. This latter incident happened the day I was flying to Canada to see my sister and he had to have an operation! In the evenings he morphs into a pussy cat, snuggling down between me and my husband on the sofa purring like a traction engine, and in these moments, I wouldn't be without him.

Sally

Tigs in her favourite place; up the apple tree.



Do you have any pets?

Have you had pets in the past?

What are your opinions on which animals should be kept as pets or not?

Plants with Animal Names Quiz

Have a go at completing the name of the plant and try identifying if it is a tree, herb, flower, shrub etc.

E.g. Tick Seed (flower)

1. Cat _____
2. Cow _____
3. Crab _____
4. Goose _____
5. Fox _____
6. Dog _____
7. Stag _____
8. Worm _____
9. Chick _____
10. Bee _____
11. Goats _____
12. Toad _____



British wild birds and animals

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

PIGEON
LIZARD
BADGER
RABBIT
BLUE TIT
FROG
HARE
CHAFFINCH
NEWT
BAT
MOUSE
DEER
COOT
MAGPIE
CROW
KESTREL
FOX
ADDER
TOAD
MOLE

Thank you for reading this week's edition of 'Activities to try at home'.

We hope you have enjoyed trying some or all of the activities.

Thank you for any feedback, it is always appreciated.

