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## WHAT HABITAT DO I LIVE IN?

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LEARNING  
ABOUT  
FORESTS

### Activity Instructions:

-  Print each individual slide (Think Green! laminate if you wish to reuse them)
-  12 Species cards & 12 Habitat cards
-  Divide your group in two
-  Divide out the Species Cards to one group & the Habitat Cards to the other group
-  The students with the Species Cards have to find their matching Habitat

Encourage plenty of  
discussion & questioning!

 An Taisce





Bat (e.g. Lesser Horseshoe)  
Native, rare and endangered

## Habitat:

I live in old houses or caves nearby forests,  
or in man made roosts

## Other facts:

Bats are nocturnal flying mammals

There are about 1,240 bat species  
worldwide, in Ireland there are 9 species

I use echolocation to hunt my prey

I eat beetles, spiders & flies

I am eaten by (predators) domestic cats &  
bigger birds, e.g. sparrow hawk

# I like to live by the forest



## Habitat:

Old houses

Caves nearby forests

Man made roosts

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Heron (e.g. Grey Heron)  
Native & common

## Habitat:

I live in wetlands, estuaries or along the rivers

My home is a nest made of twigs, grass & often is located on a tree

## Other facts:

I eat fish, frogs, small mammals, insects & lizards

My eggs & young may be eaten by mammals such as otter, fox, pine marten or bigger birds

# I like to live near wetlands, estuaries or along the rivers

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## Habitat:

My home is a nest made of  
twigs and grass and often  
located on a tree

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Fish (e.g. Atlantic Salmon)  
Native & Endangered

## Habitat:

When I am young I live in the river & then in the Atlantic Ocean as I get older.

## Other facts:

I eat larvae, insects, worms, shellfish & other fish

I am eaten by other fish or birds such as Herons

# I like to live in the river or stream & in the Atlantic Ocean

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## Habitat:

When I am young I live in the river &  
in the Atlantic Ocean when I am older

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Otter (Eurasian Otter)  
Native, Stable & Protected

## Habitat:

I live in a holt

My favourite location will be by any aquatic environment located by the forest

## Other facts:

I am a nocturnal carnivorous mammal

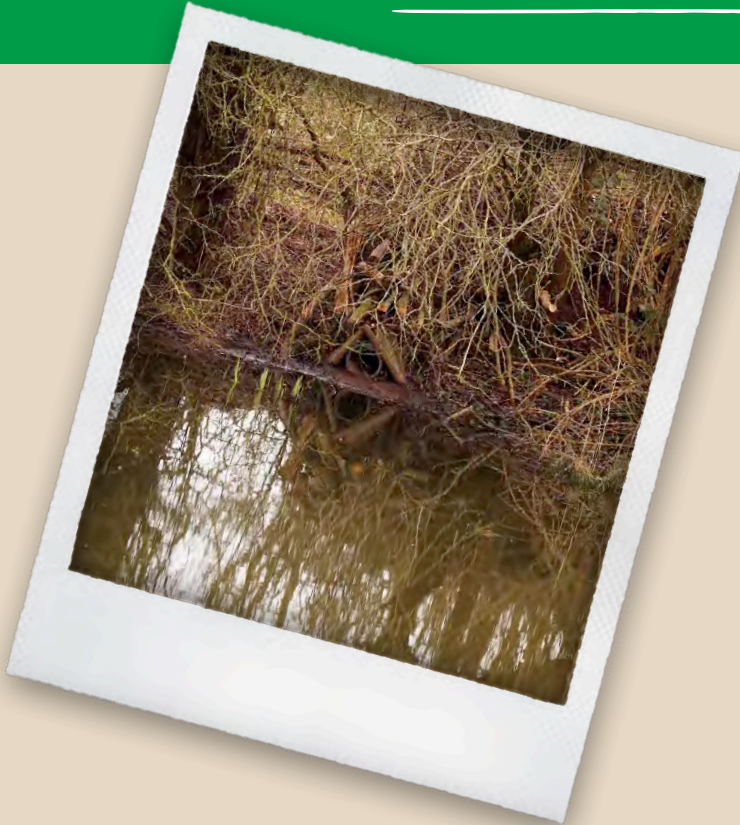
I eat fish such as salmon, eel, frogs, crab & also birds, such as ducks

Human disturbance & falling water quality levels are a threat to the Irish otter population.



I like to live nearby water with the  
forest as shelter

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Habitat:

I live in a holt

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spider

## Habitat:

Spiders web – Spiders produce a special kind of silk that they use to build a shelter & to trap their prey

Spiders can live almost anywhere e.g. forests or grasslands or even by water

## Other facts:

There are approximately 1,107 species of spiders in Ireland

I eat insects such as flies, wasps or bees & other smaller spiders

I am eaten by birds & frogs

# I can live anywhere, but I really like the woods & grasslands

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## Habitat:

Spiders web – Spiders produce special kind of silk that they use to build a shelter & to trap their prey

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Woodlouse  
Common

## Habitat:

I live in dark, humid hidden places  
underneath dead leaves or fallen branches

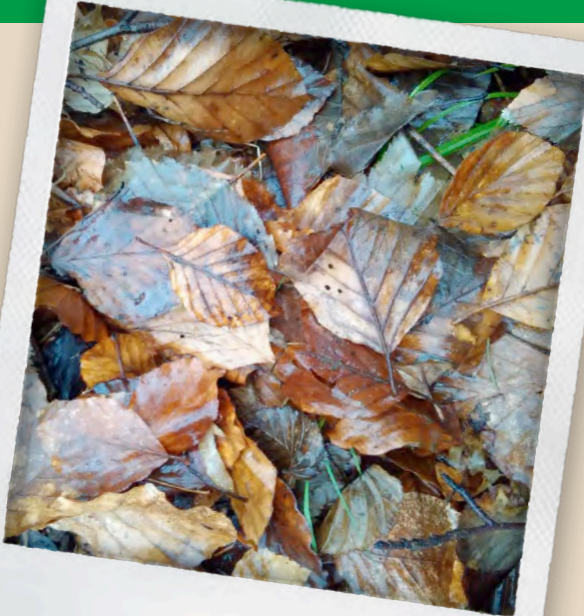
## Other facts:

32 species of woodlouse in Ireland, 3,500  
worldwide

I eat dead or decaying plant matter – I am the  
'ultimate recycler'!

I am eaten by birds, small mammals or spiders

# I like to live in the shadow of the woods



## Habitat:

I live in dark, humid places,  
underneath dead leaves or  
fallen branches

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Squirrel (Red Squirrel)  
Native & Common

## Habitat:

My home is a drey, which is a nest made of twigs located on the tree

## Other facts:

Squirrels are Omnivorous rodents & are common in Ireland

I eat pine cones, hazelnuts & ripe acorns

I am eaten by foxes or bigger birds, such as owls

# I like to live in the forest

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## Habitat:

My home is a drey, which is a nest made of twigs located on the tree

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Pine Martin Native & Rare  
(but numbers are improving)

## Habitat:

I can adapt any den sites such as an old bird nest, squirrel drey or even live in rock crevices or tree cavities

I prefer coniferous woodland

## Other facts:

I am a nocturnal mammal

I am eaten by eagles & foxes

I eat frogs, beetles, earthworms, I also like to treat myself to honey, berries & mushrooms

I like to live in forests, preferably  
coniferous types of trees



## Habitat:

I can adapt any den sites such as an old bird nests, squirrel drey or even rock crevices or tree cavities

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## Bee

30% of Bee Species in Ireland are threatened with extinction, and they are not protected by law

## Habitat:

I live in a hive, in the hollow of the tree, or in a man-made hive

I prefer locations nearby flowers & plants

## Other facts:

There are 97 bee species in Ireland

I pollinate: flowers, fruits & vegetables

Adult bees eat, pollen, honey & sugar liquid, called nectar

Larva of a new queen bee eat royal jelly which is made by mature bee workers

I am eaten by birds & some mammals



# I like to live nearby flowers & plants



In a hive there is a queen- mother, Workers- females food foragers and drones- male bees



## Habitat:

I live in a beehive,  
in the hollow of a tree,  
or in a man-made hive

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Wren  
Common

## Habitat:

I live in a nest in the hollow of a tree or in a nest box

## Other facts:

As winter can be harsh, in order to keep warm, wrens stay together in one nest throughout the coldest months

I eat mostly insects such as beetles and flies & spiders

I am eaten by mammals, such as Pine Marten or foxes

# I like to live in the woods



## Habitat:

I live in a nest in the hollow  
of a tree or in a nest box

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Chaffinch  
Common

## Habitat:

I live in a nest, of moss & dried grass - often camouflaged with lichens & cobwebs, in a fork near the end of a branch

## Other facts:

Ireland has a large chaffinch population which stays in the country all year. These birds are joined by migrants from Scandinavian countries in the autumn.

I eat seeds, split grain & beechnuts. Feeds young on insects

I am eaten by bigger birds & mammals such as squirrels



# I like to live in the forest



## Habitat:

I live in a nest made of moss & dried grass - often camouflaged with lichens & cobwebs, in a fork near the end of a branch

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**Frog**  
Common frog - Rana Temporaria  
is the only native frog in Ireland

## Habitat:

As an amphibian, I can live on land & in the water

We hibernate for winter in a heap of compost, old logs or underneath stones

## Other facts:

The only amphibians in Ireland are the Natterjack Toad, the Smooth Newt & the Common Frog

Tadpoles feed on algae & small aquatic insects

Adults eat slugs & insects such as flies, mosquitos, moths & dragonflies

I am eaten by otters, foxes & herons

# I like to live by the water



## Habitat:

As an amphibian I can live on land & in the water

We hibernate for winter in heaps of compost, old logs or underneath stones

 An Taisce

