

# Teacher information

This activity can be run in a number of different ways. Below are some different versions of the activity, which are suitable for a range of different age groups.

1). Draw the different habitats, including some of the animals that may live there. In the 'other' category they can draw a habitat not listed (e.g. coastal, river, forest). Prior to doing this exercise you could get children to look at different habitats when they're travelling outside of school to try and get them thinking about the different features of each habitat. When they have finished drawing, you can talk about each habitat and look at photos on the internet of each (particularly areas local to your school). You can also do some spotting on MammalWeb and as photos come up get children to think about which habitat they think that camera has been set up.

2). Do some spotting on MammalWeb and for each photo you classify get the children to think about which habitat the camera is set up in, and then write down the species in the photo. If there are any habitats not listed, write both the habitat and the species in the 'other' box. At the end of the exercise, look at all the species you have seen in each habitat as a class. Most species should appear only in one or two boxes. Some species may appear in more than one – these are more 'generalist' species, meaning they are not specifically adapted for any one habitat. Some species may use different habitats for different purposes, for example badger setts where badgers sleep and mate are often found in woods, however badgers will travel into other habitats such as farmland to hunt.

3). Split each box in two by drawing a vertical line down the middle of each box. Get the children to name adaptations an animal may need if they live in that habitat (e.g. if they live in woodland they may need specialised feet to climb trees; if they live in moorland they may need to be camouflaged as the landscape is very open; if they live in an urban environment they will need to be adapted to live amongst humans) on one side of each box. Next, do some spotting on MammalWeb and as you classify animals get the children to write them in the box of which habitat they live in. At the end of the exercise, get the children to draw lines between the different animals and which adaptations they have, for each box. Finally, discuss if they think each species is adapted to the habitat they live in.

# Habitats in the UK

Urban/Garden

Farmland

Upland/Moorland

Woodland

Other