Thistledown Lane

Animal Homes and Habitats

KS1 Science · Year 2

Free · with answers



- Animal homes fact sheet with pictures
- Match the animal to its home
- Why does it live there? Questions
- Habitat hunt: an outdoor survey sheet
- Answers

Watch the episode free at **thistledownlane.co.uk**
A gentle claymation series about kindness, friendship and the seasons on an English country lane.
No adverts, no sign-in, no tracking. Free to print and share for home and classroom use.

For grown-ups

National curriculum

- Year 2 Living things and their habitats: identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited
- Year 2 Living things and their habitats: identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats
- Working scientifically: observing closely; identifying and classifying; gathering and recording data

Watch and talk

- **Barnaby Digs Deep:** a badger and his sett
- **Goodbye, Swallows** and **Skye Comes Home:** a swallow's mud nest
- **See You in Spring:** Bramble's nest of leaves for the winter
- **A Den for Sorrel:** a fox cub's den
- **Pip and the Frogspawn:** life in a pond

Lesson ideas

- Watch one episode and ask: what kind of home does this animal have, and why does it suit them?
- Go on a habitat hunt in the school grounds: under logs, under stones, in long grass and in leaf litter.
- Sort the homes: which are under the ground, which are up high, and which are in water?

Good to know

Thistledown Lane is a claymation story, so the friends talk, but the animal homes in it are real UK homes: badgers live in setts, swallows build mud nests under roofs, and hedgehogs hibernate in nests of leaves.

Animal homes



Rabbit: burrow

- A hole under the ground.
- Lots of rabbits live together.



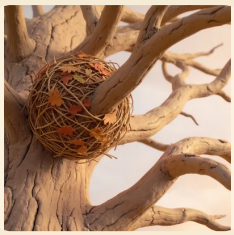
Badger: sett

- Under the ground, with lots of tunnels and rooms.



Fox: den

- A safe hole where a fox rests and has its cubs.



Squirrel: drey

- A nest of twigs and leaves, high up in a tree.



Hedgehog: nest of leaves

- Hedgehogs sleep in a cosy nest of leaves all winter.



Swallow: mud nest

- Built from mud, under a roof or in a barn.



Frog: pond

- Frogs lay their eggs in a pond. Tadpoles live in the water.



Honeybee: hive

- Honeybees live together in a hive and make honey.

Who lives where?

Name: _____

1 Draw a line from each animal to its home.



fox



badger



squirrel



swallow



frog

pond

drey

mud nest

den

sett

Why does it live there?

Name: _____

1. Where do frogs lay their eggs?

   ☐ in a pond ☐ in a tree ☐ in a burrow

2. Why do frogs need to lay their eggs in water?

3. A squirrel's drey is high up in a tree. Why is that a good place for a squirrel?

4. Where does a hedgehog sleep all winter?

   ☐ in a pond ☐ in a nest of leaves ☐ in a beehive

5. Name an animal that lives under the ground.

6. Think of a place in your school grounds where a small creature might live. Where is it, and what might live there?

Habitat hunt

Name: _____

Look gently in each place with a grown-up. Put everything back as you found it.

Where I looked	What I found	How many?
Under a log		
Under a stone		
In long grass		
In a pile of leaves		
On a tree trunk		
In the soil		

Draw your favourite find.

Answers

Who lives where?

1. fox: den; badger: sett; squirrel: drey; swallow: mud nest; frog: pond

Why does it live there?

1. in a pond
2. Tadpoles hatch from the eggs and live in the water until they grow into frogs.
3. Any sensible answer, for example: squirrels are good climbers, and up high the drey is safe and out of reach.
4. in a nest of leaves
5. rabbit, badger or fox (accept: worm, mole)
6. Answers will vary, for example: under a log, where woodlice, beetles or slugs might live.

Habitat hunt

Answers will vary.