

Wildlife Quiz

1. I am a green hairstreak. I can be found on hillsides, moorland, heathland, and valley bottoms. I have the widest range of food-plants of any British species, including bilberry, broom, common bird's-foot-trefoil, common rockrose, dogwood, bramble and gorse. What am I?

2. I am happy in all sorts of habitats, and I am *not* a pest. In fact I'm quite a helpful fellow to have around, as I will happily gobble the slugs in your garden – (but please don't put down bread and milk for me!) I'm what you might call a natural pest controller. I can roll up into a spiky ball if I'm disturbed.

3. We are found in a wide variety of habitats, from moor and heath, to farmland and urban areas. We are a familiar sight, hovering beside a motorway, or other main road. We can often be seen perched on a high tree branch, or on a telephone post or wire, on the look out for prey. We eat small mammals and birds

4. I am the short-eared member of a group of very 'wise' birds. You might see me during the day, flying over the heath in search of lovely field voles. I nest on the ground, deep in the heather. My soft feathers help me to fly silently.

5. I'm often called 'Brock'. I was a leading character in 'Wind in the Willows'. I come out at night to look for my favourite food – worms. (I'm not a fussy eater, and will eat just about anything – fruit, nuts, grain, insects, eggs, birds, insects, small mammals and lots of other things.)

6. We are Britain's only poisonous snakes – but don't worry, we won't hurt you if you leave us alone. We have a grey/brown coloured body with a very distinctive black zigzag pattern on our back. Occasionally, we can be completely black. Look for us sun-bathing on a warm rock.

7. Some people say we go mad in the spring! We are famous for our 'boxing' matches, when we look for mates. You'll often see us alone, feeding on grass in the open at dawn and dusk. I'm a *very* fast runner!

8. We are quite large, but very shy animals. We can sometimes be seen in the woods. We have a reddish body with a grey face. Males have short, spiky antlers. We feed mainly on grass, leaves, berries and young shoots.

9. I have grey fur and a bushy tail. I'm actually an American. My favourite food is 'beechnut' – the seeds from the beech tree. My red cousin prefers pine seeds.

10. Grouse, deer and many smaller mammals, reptiles and insects depend on my family of plants for food and cover. The bell-shaped flowers of white, pink or purple come into flower from early summer to early autumn. We like an acid soil, and an open, sunny position. We are supposed to be lucky plants. We think we are very lucky to live in such lovely places!

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