

PS1 - Biology KS1 - 5 - 7



What is the main task of this puzzle?

Can you help the frog, the swan and the butterfly find their way through the pond maze to their babies? Don't cross the lily pads!

See 'Further Information' for links to the development of caterpillars and tadpoles.

Swans nest on the grass or by the edge of a pond or river. They lay about six eggs which take about a month to hatch. When the cygnets are born they have soft grey feathers and a grey beak, quite unlike their parents. As they get a little older the soft down is replaced with brown feathers, and by three months old they can fly. It takes about six or seven months for their white feathers to grow and you can sometimes see young swans that still have some brown feathers mixed in with their white feathers. Very rarely a white cygnet is born.

What are the other topics or tasks in the puzzle?

- There are lots of other animals in the puzzle that you might find in and around a pond.
What are these creatures?
Can you think of any other animals that live in or near ponds? Why would animals want to live near a pond?
In the puzzle are: Squirrel, fox, rabbit, snail, spider, fish.
Often you might see herons near water and, more unusually, kingfishers. Water voles are rat-like creatures who live near still or moving water. They are protected in Britain because their numbers have dropped dramatically recently. Along with frogs you might see toads and newts, and as well as the butterflies you might come across dragonflies.
Animals live near ponds because they are a good source of water and because there is plenty of food for them to eat nearby. There are hundreds of different animals, from tiny to large living in a pond habitat.
- Can you recognise any of the flowers growing around the edge of the pond?
Dandelion, daffodil, daisies in a daisy chain.
- Colour in the picture.

Where does it fit in the curriculum?

England

- 1A Ourselves
- 2A Health and Growth
- 2B Plants and animals in their environment
- 2C Variation

Wales

That humans and other animals can produce offspring and these offspring grow into adults.

Scotland

Sort living things into broad groups.

Recognise and name some common plants and animals found in the local environment.

Northern Ireland

Interdependence - How plants and animals rely on each other within the natural world.

Place - Ways in which living things depend on and adapt to their environment.



Further information and links.

Frogs:

All about tadpoles and frogs at Frogland: <http://allaboutfrogs.org/>

BBC facts about the common frog: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/wildfacts/factfiles/483.shtml>

Which frogs have you found in your garden? <http://www.marinebiology.co.uk/frogs.htm>

How to tell the difference between a frog, a toad and a newt: http://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=111&Itemid=170

Butterflies:

Butterfly Conservation. Information on butterflies and their habitat: <http://www.butterfly-conservation.org/index.php>

Information on the butterflies found at the London Butterfly House: <http://www.londonbutterflyhouse.com/>

Some information on UK moths in Back Garden Moths: <http://www.back-garden-moths.co.uk/>

Facts about dragonflies from the Young Peoples Trust for the Environment: http://www.yptenc.org.uk/docs/factsheets/animal_facts/dragon_flies.html

More about swans:

Sebastian Swan at the South East Grid for Learning. This site was set up to involve young children in the internet, resources are aimed at Foundation and KS1. It contains some interesting stories about swans and cygnets.

<http://www.segfl.org.uk/projects/view.php?id=50>

<http://www.sebastianswan.org.uk/index.html>

The mute swan - information from the RSPB, great images, video and sound: <http://www.rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdguide/name/m/muteswan/>

The ugly duckling: http://www.4literature.net/Hans_Christian_Andersen/Ugly_Duckling/

Other information:

How to make a daisy chain: http://www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/gardening_with_children/homegrownprojects_daisy.shtml

