



Animals & Habitats

// Activities & Games



Creature	Hibernates in winter	Doesn't hibernate in winter
Hedgehog	✓	
Red squirrel		✓
Bats	✓	
Grass snake	✓	
Dormice	✓	
Badger		✓
Grey squirrel		✓
Bumblebees	✓	
Newts	✓	
Mole	✓	
Adder	✓	
Red Admiral butterfly		✓
Ladybirds	✓	
Fox		✓
Frogs	✓	
Otter		✓
Peacock butterfly	✓	
Slow Worm	✓	

HIBERNATION GAME



Overview

This activity examines how some warm-blooded animals use hibernation as a survival tactic.

Supporting information & resources:

Small plastic bottles or similar

Small sticky shapes or pens

OPTIONAL: red food colouring

OPTIONAL: to hibernate or not to hibernate quiz (use the table opposite)

What to do...

- 1 Begin by asking your learners to draw the facial features of a mouse on their plastic bottle.
- 2 Fill the bottles with hot water and add a few drops of red food colouring. Make sure the lids are well secured.
- 3 The 'mice' need to stay warm over the winter, so ask your learners to each find a suitable place outside for their 'mouse' to hibernate. This might be under a pile of leaves, under a bush or in the trunk of a tree. Make each 'mouse' warm and cosy! Now leave the area for a set period, at least an hour.
- 4 This would be a good time to read a story about an animal that hibernates or find pictures of animals hidden around the area for a quick quiz on which animals hibernate, migrate or stay awake during the winter.
- 5 Check to see if the 'mice' have survived the winter. What has happened to the temperature of the water? Is it warm or has it cooled? What does a mouse have that the bottles don't? Do you think animals would really hibernate in the area?