



Winterwatch Live Lesson

Date: Thursday, 31st January 2019

Time: 2pm

Duration: 35 minutes (approx.)

Location: bbc.com/livelessons

(Note: if you can't watch the programme live, you will be able to watch the recording on the Live Lessons website within half an hour of the live broadcast via BBC iPlayer)

We want to hear from you!

Prior to the Live Lesson, we'd like your pupils to explore their local area, whether it is their school, home or community, to find out what wildlife shares their space.

Email us your class' findings, plus pictures of them exploring your school's wildlife, with your class and school name to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or tweet [@BBC_Teach](https://twitter.com/BBC_Teach) with the hashtag #bbclivelessons.

Winterwatch's Chris Packham could discuss your photo in our Live Lesson! Chris will also be answering your questions towards the end of our programme. Please see the 'Contact Us' section below for more information.

Curriculum links

Key Stage 2 Science (2nd Level in Scotland)

Adaptation, ecosystems and the environment

- Living things adapt to their environments, according to the sort of habitat they live in.
- Biodiversity, the variety of animal and plant life, is very important in our world.
- Within an ecosystem, all living things are connected in some way. Relationships between living things will always vary from depending on the habitat and environment.

Living things and their habitats

- Living things can be classified into broad groups in accordance with common observable characteristics. These can be based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals.
- We can use our knowledge of classification to research and classify unfamiliar living things from a broad range of habitats.

Lesson structure

Section 1: Living things and their habitats

In Section 1, we will explore habitats and how to classify animals based on their characteristics. We'll hear from Winterwatch's Chris Packham, live from the Cairngorms, as he explains the observable characteristics that link animals in the Cairngorms to their habitats.

Section 2: Seasonal change and adaptation

Building upon our learning in Section 1, we will explore how animals adapt to seasonal changes within their habitats. With Chris Packham's help, as well as a visit from Tilly, a golden eagle in our studio, we'll investigate the ways animals survive in this bleak and cold environment by adapting - such as camouflage and growing extra fur, as well as migration and hibernation.

Section 3: Ecosystems and interdependence

In Section 3, we will learn how all living things are related to each other and explore how if one part of an ecosystem changes, other living things will be affected. Using this knowledge, we'll work together to discuss ways of helping ecosystems in our local environments.

How to prepare for the Live Lesson

How much space and equipment is needed?

The lesson can take place in a classroom with a large screen linked to a reliable broadband connection. Good audio equipment is not essential but will make the event more enjoyable.

How many students can participate?

It's completely up to you how many students you have participating in the session. We want to get as many students as possible engaged in this Live Lesson. We'll be using BBC archive footage to introduce students to a range of wildlife from about the world. There will also be a visit from a golden eagle, live in the studio.

Contact us

Let us know you're taking part in the Live Lesson!

If you're planning on taking part the Live Lesson, let us know. Email us with your school name and it could be featured in the Live Lesson.

Ask our experts

If you'd like to ask our experts a question, you can email us before and during the Live Lesson at live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, or get in touch by using the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**. We'll aim to answer as many of your questions as possible.

Our experts could also comment on the wildlife seen in your spaces! We want you to email us your class' findings, plus pictures of them exploring your school's wildlife, with your class and school name to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or tweet [@BBC_Teach](https://twitter.com/BBC_Teach) with the hashtag #bbclivelessons.

If you are sending in any images or videos that feature children, please ensure that you have parental permission, as they may feature in the Live Lesson and on our website. Please be aware that the BBC may ask you to demonstrate that you have received verifiable parental consent.

In the email, please confirm your official relationship to the child/children featured, e.g. teacher, and confirm that you have sought prior parental consent.

Please also ensure the material is not sensitive or controversial. Read our [Terms and Conditions](#) for more information.

After the Live Lesson

Join in with The Watches' year of action

Throughout 2019, Winterwatch, Springwatch and Autumnwatch are calling on you to help build a comprehensive record of the nation's wildlife over the year. To join in with The Watches' biggest ever citizen science project, visit the [Winterwatch](#) homepage after the series has been on TV.

Build a bug hotel or compost bin for your school

You can encourage a diverse range of wildlife into your schools and positively benefit the ecosystems you are part of. Two ways to do this are to build a bug hotel or compost bin for your school.

For the bug hotel, build a firm structure with wood or bricks, and then layer natural materials such as twigs, pine cones, woodchips and dry leaves throughout the structure to create a stable hotel.

To create a compost bin, choose a metal or plastic container and make holes near the top. Fruit peels, vegetable waste and leaves are perfect nutrient rich materials to place in a compost bin.

For more bug hotel and compost bin ideas, please visit these links:

- [RSPB's multi-storey bug hotel](#)
- [The Woodland Trust's pine cone palace and minibeast mansion](#)

What to do if you find a hedgehog in winter

In the autumn, hedgehogs feast on large quantities of slugs, snails and minibeasts, before spending the winter asleep in a nest of grass and leaves. Most hedgehogs will hibernate over winter. However, if you find a hedgehog awake that is smaller than a grapefruit, it will need help to survive the winter.

Please see these useful links for advice for caring for hedgehogs:

- [Learn all about hedgehogs with Hedgehog Street](#)
- [RSPCA advice for caring for juvenile hedgehogs](#)
- [Find out more about how you can support hedgehogs with the People's Trust for Endangered Species](#)

Explore the British year with BBC Teach

BBC Teach have a [series of spectacular clips](#) exploring British plants, animals and landscapes throughout the four seasons of the year. From how animals find food in the winter to how native birds display seasonal behaviour, these clips are suitable for KS1 and KS2 in England and Wales and Northern Ireland and Early and 1st Level in Scotland.