

**What's happening**  
**in the news this week?**



**Let's have a look at this week's poster!**

**6th - 12th March 2023**



**How can we help protect wild  
animals where we live?**



# Let's look at this week's story



The number of hazel dormice has gone down so much in the UK, some people would now like them to be put on an endangered animal list.

What do you think the word 'endangered' means?  
If no one does anything to help them, what do you think could happen to hazel dormice in the UK?

If hazel dormice are put on the endangered animal list, it will mean people will do more to help protect them.

Have you ever seen a hazel dormouse?  
Are they animals we see often?

Do you think we should do more to help hazel dormice?  
What do you think we could do to help protect them?

# This week's story looks at events related to ...







Look at different wild animals that live in the UK.



rabbit



badger



hedgehog



squirrel



deer



heron



fox



owl

Which animals have  
you seen before?  
Which have you never seen?

Which do you like  
the most? Why?

Do you think we need to help  
protect all our wild animals? If so,  
how do you think we could do this?

# How does it make me feel?



happy



sad



confused



worried



surprised



angry



excited



scared



silly



I'm not sure



# Have you heard any words that you haven't heard before?



Write any new words here and talk about what they mean 



**Can you draw your own nest box for a dormouse and write a sentence to tell people how they can help dormice?**

A nest for a dormouse

How are nest boxes helping dormice?

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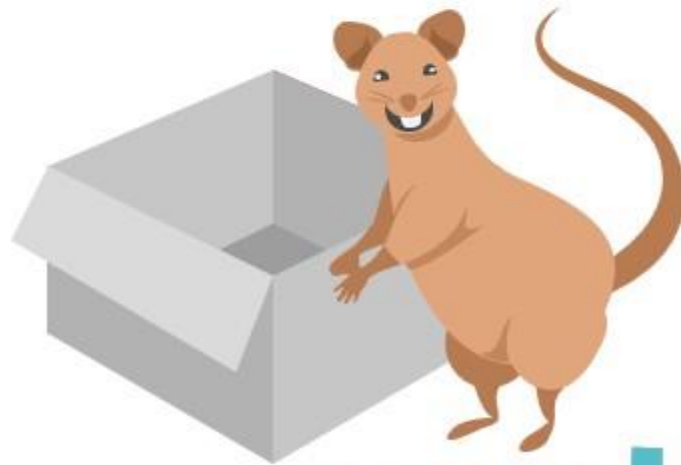
**on**



**inside**



**behind**



**next to**



**between**



**under**



**through**



**along**





## **Democracy**

We all have a voice and our opinions should be heard. If we want to help care for and protect natural habitats, we can use our voice and take action.

# Protected Characteristics



For some people, caring for and protecting natural environments form part of their beliefs. It will affect their life choices or how they live their life.



Sex



Sexual  
Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender  
Reassignment



Marriage and  
Civil Partnership



Pregnancy  
and Maternity



Race



Religion  
or Belief





# UN Rights of a Child



We have the right to give our opinions freely about any issues that affect us such as issues in our local area. Adults should listen to us and take us seriously.



# Weekly vocabulary



Speaking and listening	Drawing and Writing	Small World /Maths	Playdough	Printing
dormouse dormice animal endangered wild wild animals protect safe destroy environment litter rabbit badger hedgehog squirrel deer heron fox barn owl	draw write sentence words dormouse dormice nest nesting box home safe inside out warm cosy bed leaves	dormouse dormice climbers climb crawl boxes tubes on in inside behind next to through under underneath between along	dormouse dormice playdough body head ears tail feet eyes nose long thin mould roll shape attach cut	wild animals live UK footprints prints feet paws claws walking lines straight curvy the same different





# Picture News

## In the Early Years

### Speaking and Listening

**Birth to 5 Matters:** Shows care and concern for living things and the environment. Begin to understand the effect their behaviour can have on the environment.

**Look at the Picture News poster:** What can you see? What do you like or dislike about this picture? What kind of animal do you think this is?

This animal is a hazel dormouse. They are in the news because their numbers have gone down so much in the UK, some people would now like them to be put on an endangered animal list.

**Think about:** What do you think the word 'endangered' means? If no one does anything to help them, what do you think could happen to hazel dormice in the UK?

If hazel dormice are put on the endangered animal list it will mean people will do more to help protect them.

**Think about:** Have you ever seen a hazel dormouse? Are they animals we see often? Do you think we should do more to help hazel dormice? What do you think we could do to help protect them?

**Question:** How can we help protect wild animals where we live?

Lots of animals live in the wild.

**Think about:** What do we mean when we say 'in the wild'? Discuss that animals in the wild look after themselves, make their own homes and find their own food.

Look at the **EY Resource**, which shows different wild animals that live in the UK.

**Think about:** Which animals have you seen before? Where did you see them? Which have you never seen? Which do you like the most? Why? Do you think we need to help protect all our wild animals? If so, how do you think we could do this?

Discuss how we can make sure we don't stand on or destroy any homes that wild animals live in, make sure we don't leave litter in their environment, as they could get caught in it or eat it, thinking it's food.

### Small World/Maths

**Can you help describe where all the dormice are?**

**Birth to 5 Matters:** Responds to and uses language of position and direction.

Dormice are good climbers and they like to crawl on, behind, inside and through different things.

**Think about:** Can you find a dormouse? Where is it? Can you describe to me where

the dormouse is? The dormouse has moved, where is it now? The dormouse has been inside a box, on a block and along the string. I wonder if it could go through anything!

**Resources:** Positional language dormice cards (see **EY Resource 2**), toy dormice or other rodents, boxes with holes cut out, cardboard tubes (Picture News tubes would be good!), wooden blocks, string, tape

### Drawing and Writing

**Can you draw your own nest box and write a sentence to tell people how nesting boxes are helping dormice?**

**Birth to 5 Matters:** Starts to develop their phonic knowledge by linking sounds to letters. Uses their developing phonic knowledge to write things such as labels and captions, later progressing to simple sentences.

Discuss with the children that one thing some people are doing to help dormice, is placing some safe homes (nesting boxes) in woods where dormice live. Watch the useful video clip in the resources section to see a dormouse finding a nesting box that some people have placed in a tree.

**Think about:** How do you think the nesting box will help keep the dormouse safe? Do you think bigger animals will be able to get into the box? Why? How does the dormouse keep itself warm? Can you draw your own nest box? What will it be made from? How will the dormouse get inside? Can you help protect dormice by writing a sentence to tell other people why nest boxes are useful?

**Resources:** Drawing and Writing proforma (see **EY Resource 1**), pencils, sound mats, useful video: Dormouse finds a perfect home [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yNd4k\\_Jq5U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yNd4k_Jq5U)

### Printing

**Can you print some wild animal footprints?** *prints in a line to make it look like the animal has walked all over your paper? Will it be a straight line or a curvy line? Can you try making footprints with a different animal? How are these footprints different to the last ones you made?*

**Birth to 5 Matters:** Uses everyday materials to explore, understand and represent their world – their ideas, interests and fascinations. Knows about similarities and differences in relation to living things.

**Think about:** Which animals do we have to print with? I wonder if we can sort them into animals that live in the wild in the UK and animals that live in the wild but not in the UK! How can you use the paint to print some animal footprints? Can you make

**Resources:** A range of small world wild animals, aprons, painting trays, ready mixed paint, plain paper

### Playdough

**Can you make your own dormouse out of playdough?**

**Birth to 5 Matters:** Handles tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control and intention.

**Think about:** How can you make a dormouse out of playdough? How can you

make its body? What body parts does your dormouse need? I wonder how you will make a long, thin tail! How can you attach the tail?

**Resources:** Orange playdough, playdough tools and cutters, googly eyes, images of dormice



## Can you **help describe** where all the dormice are?



<b>Provision area</b>	Small World Area
<b>Birth to 5 matters</b>	Responds to and uses language of position and direction.
<b>Key questions (for adults supporting play)</b>	Can you find a dormouse? Where is it? Can you describe to me where the dormouse is? The dormouse has moved, where is it now? The dormouse has been inside a box, on a block and along the string. I wonder if it could go through anything!
<b>Key vocabulary</b>	Dormouse, dormice, climbers, climb, crawl, boxes, tubes, on, in, inside, behind, next to, through, under, underneath, between, along

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## Can you **draw your own** nest box and write a sentence to tell people why nesting boxes are helping dormice?



<b>Provision area</b>	Writing Area
<b>Birth to 5 matters</b>	Starts to develop their phonic knowledge by linking sounds to letters. Uses their developing phonic knowledge to write things such as labels and captions, later progressing to simple sentences.
<b>Key questions (for adults supporting play)</b>	How do you think the nesting box will help keep the dormouse safe? Do you think bigger animals will be able to get into the box? Why? How does the dormouse keep itself warm? Can you draw your own nest box? What will it be made from? How will the dormouse get inside? Can you help protect dormice by writing a sentence to tell other people why nest boxes are useful?
<b>Key vocabulary</b>	Draw, write, sentence, words, dormouse, dormice, nest, nesting box, home, safe, inside, out, warm, cosy, bed, leaves

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## Can you **make your own** dormouse out of playdough?



<b>Provision area</b>	Playdough Area
<b>Birth to 5 matters</b>	Handles tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control and intention.
<b>Key questions (for adults supporting play)</b>	How can you make a dormouse out of playdough? How can you make its body? What body parts does your dormouse need? I wonder how you will make a long, thin tail! How can you attach the tail?
<b>Key vocabulary</b>	Dormouse, dormice, playdough, body, head, ears, tail, feet, eyes, nose, long, thin, mould, roll, shape, attach, cut

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## Can you **print** some wild animal footprints?



<b>Provision area</b>	Painting Area
<b>Birth to 5 matters</b>	Uses everyday materials to explore, understand and represent their world – their ideas, interests and fascinations. Knows about similarities and differences in relation to living things.
<b>Key questions (for adults supporting play)</b>	Which animals do we have to print with? I wonder if we can sort them into animals that live in the wild in the UK and animals that live in the wild but not in the UK! How can you use the paint to print some animal footprints? Can you make prints in a line to make it look like the animal has walked all over your paper? Will it be a straight line or a curvy line? Can you try making footprints with a different animal? How are these footprints different to the last ones you made?
<b>Key vocabulary</b>	Wild, animals, live, UK, footprints, prints, feet, paws, claws, walking, lines, straight, curvy, the same, different

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