

Nature'sWeb

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Summer 2014

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Editor's Page

Stonechat

Captain Cockle

An A to Z of
Coastal Life

Colour In:
Down on the Farm

All in a
Day's Work:
David Sheehy,
Dairy Farmer

Activity: Make
Your Own Herd
of Cows

The Brown Bear

Iceland

The World
Around Us

Pool Safety

Fun Page

Learn More

Summer
Wordsearch

Nature's
Noticeboard

Bear Essentials



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Editor's Page

The Story Behind the Teddy Bear

When you look at the brown bear on the cover of this newsletter, it is hard to imagine something so huge as a cute and cuddly toy. Many of us had a teddy bear when we were young, or still have one, as we can become very attached to them. Teddy bears were created as toys at the turn of the 20th century. They were manufactured, almost at the same time, in the US and in Germany. The name "Teddy" was made popular by a story at the time about US President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt. Thankfully the President refused to kill a helpless bear on a hunting trip and his kindness to the bear was remembered by someone who made a stuffed toy bear and called it a "teddy bear". They became so popular that the man went on to produce the teddy bears in large quantities. The name stuck ever since and we continue our love of teddy bears, which come in all shapes and sizes, and which, for many, have played a big part in our lives.



Teddy bears of great importance - "Pinkie" and "January".

As GAELIGE! We are delighted to have teamed up with An Gúm, who have begun to translate Nature's Web into Irish. Issues are now available, as gaeilge, at:
http://www.gaeilge.ie/ForasnaGaeilge/An_Bhunscoil.asp

CELEBRATION SALMON



Photo courtesy of www.bim.ie

What you need:

1 whole salmon* - gutted, well washed, gills removed (a fish monger can help you)

What to do:

To Bake in Roasting Tray

Arrange prepared fish on buttered foil.
Pour a half glass of water over fish, add seasoning - parsley stalks, bay leaves, salt and pepper.
Fold foil loosely over fish to enclose completely and seal edges.
Bake at 190°C/375°F/Gas 5, allowing 10 minutes per lb.

*You can substitute sea trout or any large whole fish.

To Poach in Fish Kettle (a long pot)

Arrange prepared fish on rack.
Lower it into cold water, add seasonings - parsley stalks, bay leaves, salt and pepper.
Heat to simmering point, simmer for 8-10 minutes.
Remove from heat, allow to cook and cool in liquid.
Remove and garnish.

To Garnish:

Carefully remove skin from fish, trim tail and fins.
Remove brown meat to expose pink flesh.
Garnish with herbs, lemon slices and edible flowers.

Brought to you by BIM www.bim.ie

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Nature's Web!

Dear Reader,



Welcome everyone to the Summer 2014 issue of Nature's Web. We learn in this issue what it is like to be a dairy farmer. David Sheehy from Baltimore, Co Cork gives us a glimpse of the work he carries out on his farm and find out just how much he enjoys his job. We look at the life of the Brown Bear and learn what makes it such a powerful animal. After a recent visit to Iceland, Cally Harmer tell us something about this fascinating country and how, in geological terms, it is still relatively young. Check out nature news from around the world on page 11 and enjoy a giggle with the jokes on page 13. We would love to hear your views and comments and suggestions for future articles. Have a good read!

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Stonechat

Scientific Name: *Saxicola torquata*

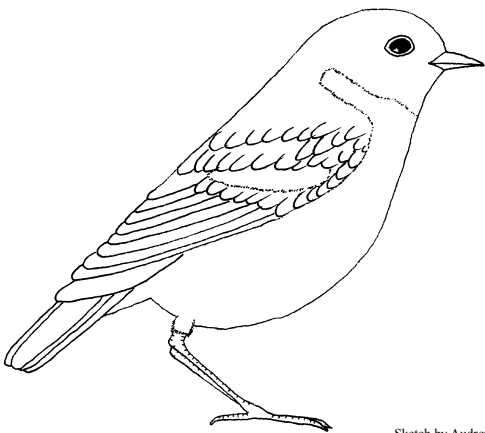
Irish Name: Caislín cloch

Stonechats are small garden birds, about the same size as the Robin, and are related to thrushes and flycatchers. They can be found in rough grassland where they build their nests of grass and moss. They can often be seen flicking their wings when perched on low shrubs, brambles and gorse. Both males and females make a clicking call that sounds like two stones being tapped together, giving rise to their name. Stonechats breed in Ireland and are commonest in coastal and lowland areas.



Photographs courtesy of Robbie Murphy

A male Stonechat to colour



Sketch by Audrey Murphy

Perching Birds

Over half the birds in the world are perching birds, otherwise known as passerine birds. Some of our most recognisable garden birds, including stonechats, robins, wrens and blue tits, are passerine birds. Perching birds are able to grip on to branches, twigs and wire with specially adapted feet. Each foot has three toes that point forward and one that faces backwards and this allows them to hold on tightly. The formation of the feet also helps them stand up straight.



FACT FILE:

Colour: Male has black head and throat. White patch on neck, wings, belly and under tail. Back is streaked brown and black. Red-orange breast but duller in winter. Female is mostly brown and also has red-orange breast.

Length: 11.5-13 cm

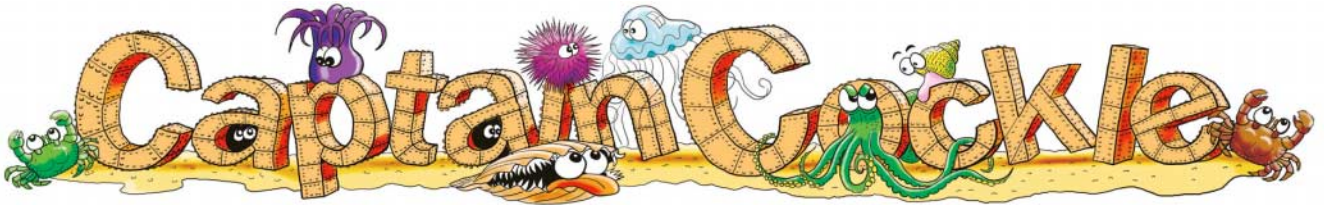
Diet: Worms, insects and their larvae, seeds and spiders.

Habitat: Areas of rough grassland, where there is gorse and heather.



The male (left) is more striking in colour than the female (right).

Aquatic Life



by John Joyce
For more Fun Facts check out
www.spindriftpress.com

Mermaids - Fish or Fiction

The first recorded sightings of the mythical sea creatures known as 'Mermaids' - beings who are half human and half fish - date right back to early Arab sailors and the Greek, Pliny in 586 AD - with reports continuing as late as the 1900's. From our modern knowledge of marine biology, it is likely that these sightings were of marine mammals such as manatees, dugongs and the now extinct sea cow, which have paddle-shaped flippers that could resemble the famous 'mermaid's mirror' and do actually appear to cradle their young as a human mother would do. The mermaids described by Christopher Columbus off the island of Haiti, in 1493 were almost certainly manatees. He wrote that they "came quite high out of the water", but were "not as pretty as they are depicted, for somehow in the face they look like men."

The mythical Irish mermaid, or 'Morrow' is lovely and graceful however and teases men with her beauty. The legend says that, if a man can capture her red cap or cloak, she will forget her life as a mermaid and marry him, but will return to the sea immediately if she gets her cap or cloak back.



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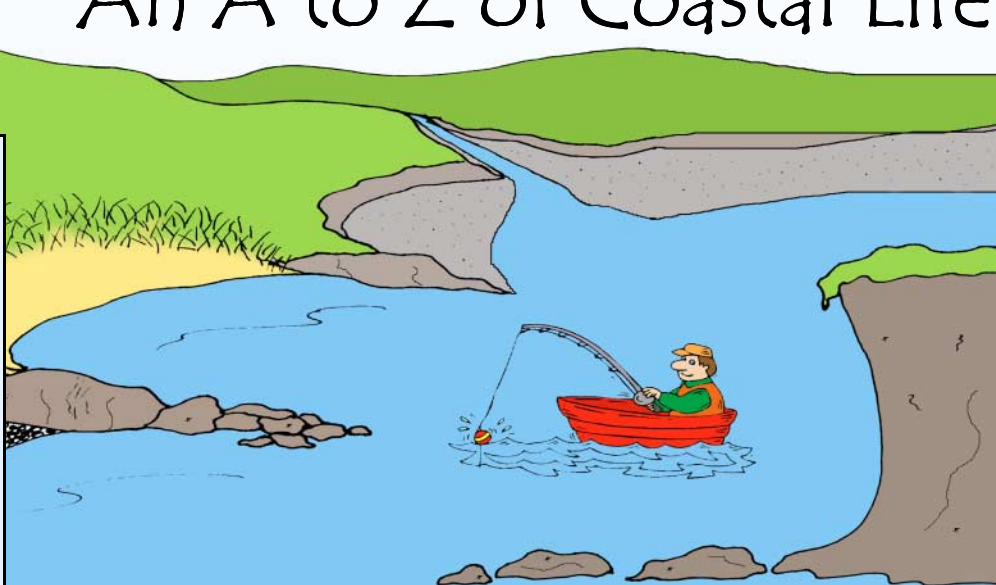
Superstitious Fishermen

Until the development of sophisticated fish detection equipment and modern fishing methods, getting a successful catch seemed to depend a great deal on luck. This is why fishermen have traditionally been very superstitious around having luck and keeping it. For example, some fishermen would never sail from port if they passed either a nun, a cat or a rook on their way to their boat. Others would not sail if they saw a rat come ashore from their vessel, since they assumed the rat was abandoning the boat in case it might sink. At mealtimes, it was considered bad luck to stir tea with either a knife or a fork, the teapot was not to be emptied after fishing had started, for to do so might make the boat turn over and sink, or bring bad luck. Knives were not to be crossed on the table, nor was a loaf of bread to be cut and turned upside down. Salt was considered to be particularly lucky, so fishermen were not to pass the salt (since to part with salt was to part with luck). The use of certain words at sea - such as pigs, fox, cat, hare, salmon or rabbits, the church, or anything to do with the land - was considered bad luck. To bring good luck, fishermen needed to eat fish from the head to the tail, shed a few drops of blood before a trip in an accident or a fight, or even (on Scottish boats), throw a crewman overboard and haul him back, so that the fish would follow.

Coastal Life

An A to Z of Coastal Life

The coast is where the land and sea meet. There are lots of wonderful things to see and do here, such as swimming, fishing, boating, looking at the wildlife and enjoying the beautiful sea views. See how much you know at the coast by matching the descriptions on the right, with the words from A to Z on the left.



Answers on page 13

Anchor
Buoy
Cliff
Dunes
Estuary
Fisherman
Geology
Habitat
Island
Jellyfish
Keel
Limpet
Mudflat
Net
Oar
Periwinkle
Quay
Rock
Sand
Tide
Urchin
Vegetation
Wildlife
eXposed
Yacht
Zonation

- _____ 1. A shellfish that clings very tightly to rocks.
- _____ 2. The natural home of animals and plants.
- _____ 3. An anchored float that marks an area of water.
- _____ 4. A pole with a flat blade used to move a boat.
- _____ 5. The rise and fall of the sea due to the moon and sun.
- _____ 6. Being without shelter or protection.
- _____ 7. A vessel for sailing or cruising.
- _____ 8. A piece of land completely surrounded by water.
- _____ 9. A material used for catching fish.
- _____ 10. A steep rock face at the edge of the sea.
- _____ 11. A heavy object on a rope that stops a boat moving.
- _____ 12. Study of the Earth's physical structures, such as rocks.
- _____ 13. Platform in a harbour for loading and unloading ships.
- _____ 14. The wild animals and plants that inhabit an area.
- _____ 15. A sea snail.
- _____ 16. Mounds of sand near the sea, formed by the wind.
- _____ 17. A man who catches fish.
- _____ 18. Muddy shore left uncovered at low tide.
- _____ 19. A sea creature with a soft jelly-like body.
- _____ 20. The plant life in an area.
- _____ 21. Particles of rocks and shell found on beaches.
- _____ 22. The hard material that makes up the Earth's crust.
- _____ 23. A spiky marine animal.
- _____ 24. Arrangement of animals and plants into zones.
- _____ 25. The mouth of a river, where it meets the sea.
- _____ 26. The part of a boat that runs along its base.

Down on the Farm



All in a Day's Work

David Sheehy – Dairy Farmer

David Sheehy was born and reared in Baltimore, Co Cork. Having trained at Darrara Agricultural College in Clonakilty, Co Cork, he returned home to run his family's 115 acre dairy farm, where he milks 55 cows.



David Sheehy

Photos courtesy of David Sheehy

Have you always been interested in what you do?

I have been interested in farming from a young age. I grew up on the farm and my father farmed it before me.

What training did you do to get where you are today?

After doing my Leaving Cert I went to agricultural college for 12 months. After that I was given three months work experience on another dairy farm in Bandon.

What is a day in your life like?

Most mornings my day starts at 7.30am when I must milk the cows, which must also be milked in the evening. This time of the year, early summer, there are lots of jobs to do around the farm, such as spreading fertiliser and cutting silage. However, the very busy times on the farm are in February/March and in October/November when the cows have their calves.

What is your main aim?

To keep the farm in good order so that if my son wants to, he can take it over in the years to come.

What is the best thing about your job?

What I like best is the variety. No two days are exactly the same as different happens all the time, from day to day and from season to season. I also like being my own boss.

What is the worst thing about your job?

The worst thing is having to work outside in bad weather.

Do you enjoy your work?

I do. You have to enjoy this type of work to be able to do it.

What equipment do you use?

We have a modern milking parlour that is run with the help of computers. When the cows come in the clusters are put on the teats. When they have been milked the computer takes the clusters off automatically and records how much milk each cow has given. The cows are also fed by computer and the amount of food can be adjusted for each cow. Not only can we see how much milk each cow produces



Putting the clusters on.

over a long period of time but it means that no matter who milks them everything is done the same way and the cows are happy. As well as the parlour there are lots of other pieces of farm equipment including a 110 horsepower tractor, a mower for silage, a fertiliser spreader and a slurry tanker.

Where does your work take you?

I am involved with farm discussion groups and visit other farms. I often go to the mart to buy and sell cows and also give talks to schools about animal breeding and other farm activities.

Do you work alone or as part of a team?

It is a family-run farm so I work as part of a team. Everyone chips in - my father, my wife and my children all help when needed.

What would you do if you weren't doing what you do?

I am involved a lot with first aid and first responder training. If I wasn't farming I think I would like to work in that area, perhaps as a paramedic.

What advice would you give someone wanting to do your job?

Try and get to know a farmer and work with him/her during the holidays to see if you would like that type of work. As an adult a farm might not support you fulltime but there are other options. When I came home to my father's farm, it wasn't big enough for the two of us so I had to find other work off the farm as well. How we farm is constantly changing. This opens up lots of options for people to do something totally different but still agriculture-related, such as working in sales for an agriculture company, working in a co-op or as a teacher or instructor. Keep your options open.



David with his tractor.



Bringing the cows in for milking.

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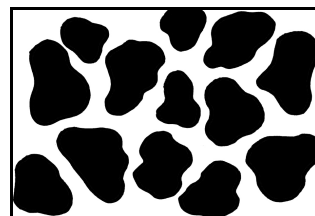
Activity

Make Your Own Herd of Cows



You will need: Empty toilet roll;
White paper; Pencil; Ruler; Scissors;
Glue and tape; Black marker.

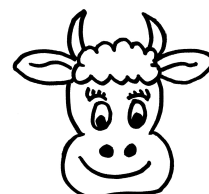
1. To cover the toilet roll, cut a rectangular piece of white paper approximately 108mm x 160mm (this will vary depending on the size of the toilet roll). Draw black blotches on the paper so it looks like the cow's coat.



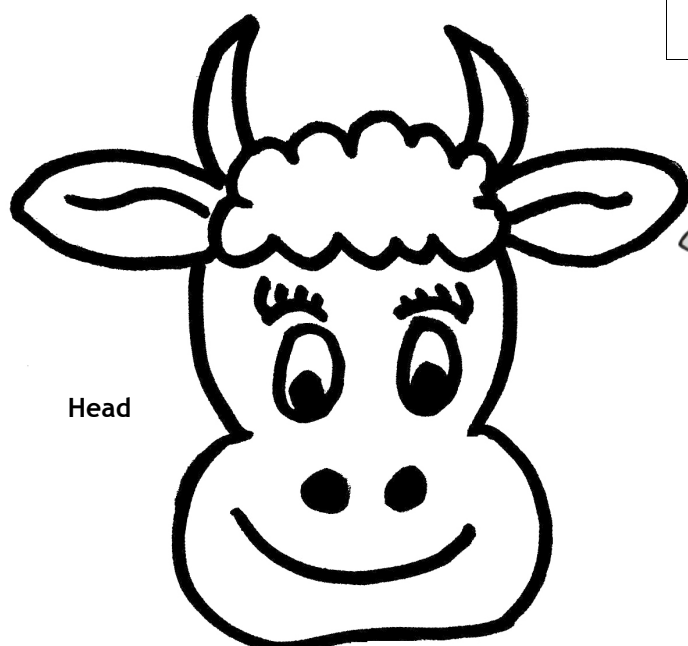
2. Glue the paper to the cardboard roll.



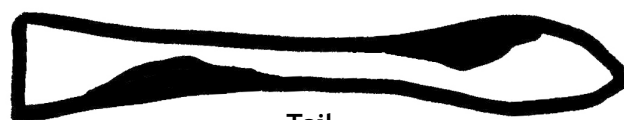
3. Print and cut out the face and tail (or try to draw them yourself). Glue the face to the front of the roll.



4. Put a small fold on the top of the tail and glue or tape it to the inside of the toilet roll.



Head



Tail

The Brown Bear

Scientific Name: *Ursus arctos*
Irish Name: Béar donn

The Brown Bear is a powerful animal. It has a large body, which is covered in a thick brown fur, a big head, four thick legs and a short tail. Its shoulder hump, which is muscle that has developed from digging, distinguishes it from other bears.

Even though brown bears are big they can move very fast when they need to. They are also good climbers.



Images courtesy of Alan Wilson www.naturespicsonline.com

Dinner Time

Bears are omnivorous. As predators they are at the top of the food-chain, eating anything from fish to mice to moose. However they also eat nuts, berries, fruit, plants and roots, which in fact make up a large part of their food intake. For bears that live near the coast, salmon is an important part of their diet. They can wait by the water for a considerable amount of time, waiting for the fish to swim by and either grab them with their powerful jaws or scoop them up with their powerful claws.



The size of a brown bear varies depending on where it lives, its diet and the time of year. Bears feed heavily from spring until autumn so as to put on weight and build up body fat to help them through their winter hibernation.



Brown Bears in Ireland

Brown bears were living in Ireland until they became extinct about 3,000 years ago. Recent studies on the bones of ancient brown bears found in Irish caves, suggest that there is a genetic link between Irish bears and polar bears.



FACT FILE:

Colour: Thick brown fur.

Length: 2 - 3 metres.

Weight: 100 - 1,000 kg

Diet: Nuts, fruit, berries, plants & roots, as well as meat & fish.

Habitat: Forests and mountains in North America, Europe & Asia.

Relatives

A male bear is called a **boar**, a female is called a **sow** and the young is called a **cub**. Cubs are born without fur and snuggle into their mother for warmth. Cubs stay with their mother for about two and a half years.

There is one species of brown bear but there are a number of sub-species, depending on where they live. For example Grizzly Bears in North America, Kodiak Brown Bears in Alaska and Eurasian Brown Bears in Europe and Asia.



Where in the World?

Iceland

By Cally Harmer

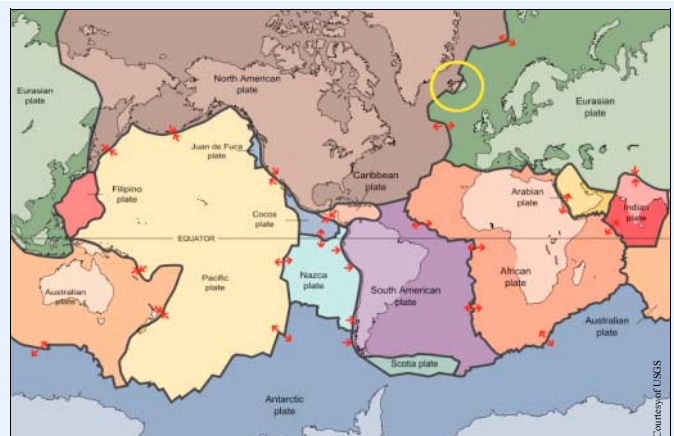
Have you ever wondered how long the land you are standing on has been around? Did you know that the rocks in different parts of the world have been here different lengths of time? The oldest parts of Iceland were formed about 20,000,000 (20 million) years ago, which seems a long time, but the oldest rocks in the world are in northwestern Canada and are 4,000,000,000 (4 billion) years old. If the rocks in Canada were an 83 year old lady, Iceland would be 5 months old; it has some of the youngest rocks on Earth and is still, very slowly, growing.



Iceland is situated on the northern edge of Europe, next to Greenland and near the Arctic Circle. Its total area is 103,000 km² and it has a population of just over 325,000, making it the most sparsely populated country in Europe. Its capital city is Reykjavík.

Tectonic plates

Since the 1960's an idea was formed about how new rocks are made and why some places have more earthquakes and volcanoes. The idea is tectonic plates. These are huge parts of the Earth's crust which are floating around on the liquid molten rock deeper in the Earth. Because they are floating around they move against each other. In some places, like Iceland, they are moving apart and creating new land. Iceland is growing very slowly - at the same speed as your fingernails!



Iceland (circled), lies on top of where two tectonic plates meet.

Geysers

Because the tectonic plates are moving apart, melted rock, or magma, is close to the surface in Iceland. It needs a high temperature, 700-1300 °C to get rocks to melt, so in places the land's surface is hot enough to boil water! Where there is underground water it can boil underground and gush out in an explosion at the surface called a geyser.



Nature in Iceland

There are lots of mosses and lichens in Iceland. These cover the landscape in different colours. They have lots of birds which migrate, or travel, to avoid the long cold winters. One migrant bird which we get in Ireland is the redwing, they call it Skógarpröstur. Because Iceland is a young island, not many tree species have been able to get there yet. Also because it can get cold, the trees that grow there are usually quite small. There is a joke in Iceland about this..."What do you do if you get lost in an Icelandic forest?" "Stand up!"



A redwing, known as Skógarpröstur in Iceland.



The World Around Us



"Foreign Correspondent"
Michael Ludwig reports on some strange goings on in the natural world.

Tracking Sharks in the Ocean

The ocean is a big place (it covers 70% of our earth) and is home to lots of organisms we never see. Thanks to a research project called Ocearch, we now have the chance to follow some of this wildlife, almost in real time. Oearch is carefully capturing sharks by lifting them in specially designed cages so scientists can study them for about 15 minutes before tagging and releasing them. Once tagged, scientists, along with the public, can track their movements with the online Global Shark Tracker, www.oearch.org. There was fierce excitement this March when it appeared that one of the great white sharks, known as Lydia, was heading from Florida all the way to Ireland. Unfortunately, Lydia turned back midway across the Atlantic but it was still fascinating to follow her on her journey. Visit the website to see tagged other sharks roaming the ocean.



A Train Ride with a Difference

In mid-March this year, a tawny owl took a 300-mile (483 km) journey from Glasgow, Scotland to Crick in Northamptonshire, the UK. It was perched on the engine of a freight train. Having stopped to rest on the train, the owl was confused or too tired to fly away when the train began to move. It clung just below the driver's cabin until the train pulled into the freight terminal in Crick. Believed to be about two or three years old, it suffered only a sprained wing. It was brought to the Nuneaton and Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary where it was nursed back to health and returned to the wild in early April to deliver Ron Weasley's mail.



Khumba the Zonkey

What do get when you cross a zebra with a donkey? Well, it appears you get a zonkey! On 21st April, in a Mexican zoo, a zonkey they named "Khumba" was born. Khumba's mother is a zebra and its father is a dwarf albino donkey that lives on a nearby farm. It is rare for zebras and donkeys to produce offspring as their chromosomes (part of an organism's genes that control what you are) are usually not compatible.

Ladybird Survey

The Irish Wildlife Trust (IWT), together with Biology.ie and National Museums Northern Ireland are running a survey to list the number and species of ladybird throughout the whole of Ireland. Very little research or species mapping has been taken of Ireland's ladybirds and it is therefore important to start mapping their location. This year they would like to change this lack of knowledge by asking members of the community, schools, naturalists and everyone who sees a ladybird to submit their sightings through www.biology.ie. You can download an aid from the website to help you with identification.



Recording the April Showers

Recording the amount of rain that falls gives us a better understanding of our weather. Unfortunately less and less data is being collected as it is becoming very expensive to maintain the scientific equipment that records rainfall. Scientist are looking for inventive ways of collecting this type of useful information and Rolf Hut, a scientist from Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands, thinks he may have the answer. He has invented a prototype umbrella, which has a built-in sensor to detect the vibrations of raindrops on the canvas. This information can then be sent to a phone via bluetooth and uploaded to a computer, which could interpret how much rain fell. While this type of data would not be as valuable as that from a proper rain gauge, it could be used alongside other methods of recording rainfall to help our understanding of the weather.



Special Feature

Pool Safety

Dopper's Pool Safety Advice



Watch out in case there is no proper barrier between the kiddies Pool and the main Pool.



1 Be careful not to dive into shallow water.



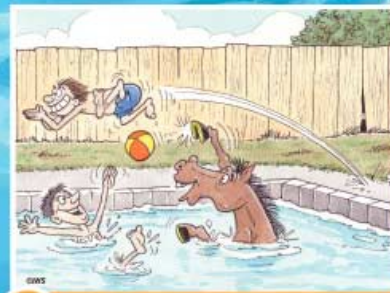
2 Check to see how deep the pool is. Ask an attendant if the depth is not clearly marked.

Beware of wet and slippery surfaces.

When you arrive, find out if there is a Lifeguard on duty before you go into the water.



3 If you are with younger children, watch out for them at all times.



4 Obey all the Pool safety rules such as no running dives and no horseplay.

Do not swim in water that looks discoloured or murky.

Watch out for sudden drops in the Pool floor.



5 An adult should always supervise playtime.



6 Remember to check for others before entering the water.

Watch out for broken or missing tiles.

Digest food before you swim.

Listen to the instructions of Pool Lifeguards.

They are there to help you have a good time.

REMEMBER THESE RULES - ENJOY YOURSELF - COME HOME SAFELY



Irish Water Safety
Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann
Irish Water Safety is the statutory & voluntary body established to promote water safety in Ireland.
Tá Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann ina bhodh éinneas reachtúil a bunaíodh le sabháilteacht uisce a chur in éirí.

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Fun Page

How much did you learn?

The answers to all these questions can be found in the newsletter...see if you can remember!

- 1 Which type of insect are the Irish Wildlife Trust, Biology.ie and National Museums Northern Ireland surveying this year?
- 2 What is a male Brown Bear called?
- 3 Which fruit is used as a garnish on the Celebration Salmon recipe?
- 4 What type of farmer is David Sheehy?
- 5 What is the collective name for a group of cows?
- 6 After which president of the United States of America was the teddy bear named?
- 7 What do you get if you cross a zebra with a donkey?
- 8 Is the Grizzly Bear, a sub-species of the Brown Bear, found in North America or Europe?
- 9 What everyday object may be used in the future to record rainfall?
- 10 Is the stonechat a perching bird or a bird of prey?
- 11 Where did David Sheehy study farming?
- 12 What type of owl made a 300-mile journey clung to the outside of a freight train?
- 13 How long ago were the oldest parts of Iceland formed?
- 14 What animal could have been mistaken for a mermaid?
- 15 In "An A to Z of Coastal Life", which sea creature has a soft, jelly-like body?
- 16 In the Irish Water Safety poster, what is advice No. 1?

Answers: (1) Ladybird; (2) Boar; (3) Lemon; (4) A dairy farmer; (5) A herd; (6) President Theodore Roosevelt; (7) A Zonkey; (8) North America; (9) An umbrella; (10) A perching bird; (11) Darrara Agricultural College, Clonakilly, Co Cork; (12) A Tawny Owl; (13) 20,000,000 years ago; (14) A manatee; (15) A jellyfish; (16) Be careful not to dive into shallow water.

Answers to Coastal Life Page 5: 1. Limpet; 2. Habitat; 3. Buoy; 4. Oar; 5. Tide; 6. Exposed; 7. Yacht; 8. Island; 9. Net; 10. Cliff; 11. Anchor; 12. Geology; 13. Quay; 14. Wildlife; 15. Periwinkle; 16. Dunes; 17. Fisherman; 18. Mudflat; 19. Jellyfish; 20. Vegetation; 21. Sand; 22. Rock; 23. Urchin; 24. Zonation; 25. Estuary; 26. Keel.

Think of a Title

Have fun with your friends making up a caption for this picture of two brown bears swimming.



Image courtesy of Elaine R. Wilson www.naturespicsonline.com

Nature Jokes



Why did the calf cross the road?
To get to the udder side!

Why did the ants dance on the jam jar?
The lid said twist to open.



What do you call poems about trees?
Poetry.

What do you call a girl who stands up straight?
Noleen.



Why did the chicken cross the road?
Because he was a mad yoke!

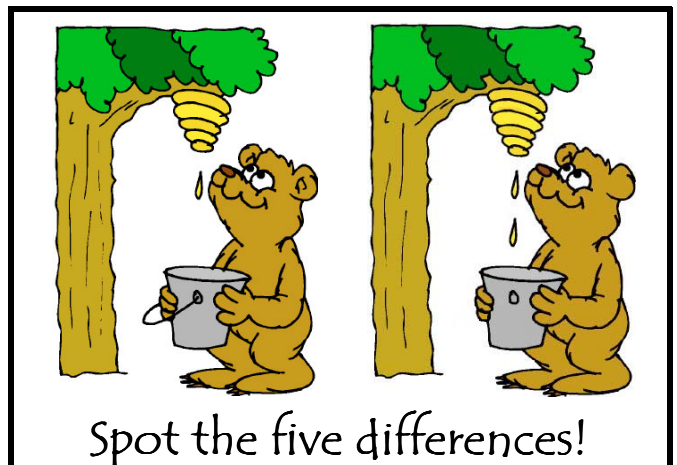
What do you call a boy outside your door?
Matt.



What do you call an alligator in a vest?
An investigator.

Knock Knock. Who's there?
Dish. Dish who?

The dish who ran away with the spoon.



Thanks to 1st Class of Kilcoe NS, Kilcoe, Co. Cork for the

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Learn More



Only €2.10 each including postage or €14.00 for all eight (inc. postage). 32pp each

Sherkin Island Marine Station has published a range of colouring books, guides and activity books for children. Each 32-page *Colouring & Guide Book* gives you the chance to colour, identify and learn about the wildlife around Ireland. *Safety Sam's Activity Book* is filled with activities to encourage safety for children. *My Nature Diary* contains lined pages to fill in a daily record of sightings and nature news.

A Beginner's Guide to Ireland's Wild

Flowers With the help of this pocket-sized guide, beginners of all ages will be introduced to the many common wild flowers found around

Only
€8.50 inc.
postage



Ireland's Hidden Depths has just been published by Sherkin Island Marine Station. Ireland's amazing marine life, glorious kelp forests and spectacular undersea scenery are featured in over 200 spectacular photographs by nature photographer Paul Kay. 277 x 227 mm 160 pps
Only €13.00 including postage



Sea Life DVD:

"On the Water's Edge"

Produced by Sherkin Island Marine Station, the DVD 'On the Water's Edge', features a short film on life beside the sea.

Presented by Audrey Murphy, it includes 6-10 hours of interactive material for children of all ages. Only €6.00 plus €1.30 p&p.



A Beginner's Guide to Ireland's Seashore is a pocket-sized guide, suitable for beginners of all ages. This book will help you to explore the wonders of marine life found on the shores around Ireland.

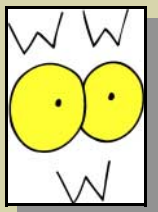
Only €8.00 inc. postage



"An A to Z of Geology" explores the fascinating world of rocks and geology - a world of volcanoes, tsunamis, earthquakes, diamonds, gold and even dinosaurs! Produced by Sherkin Island Marine Station, in association with the Geological Survey of Ireland.

Only €6.99 including postage

To order books, send your name and address along with a cheque or postal order made payable to Sherkin Island Marine Station to: Sherkin Island Marine Station, Sherkin Island, Co. Cork. Ireland. Or visit: www.sherkinmarine.ie and pay by Paypal.



Useful Web Addresses

There are lots of websites to be found on the internet that will give you further information on topics we have covered in this newsletter. Here are a few that may be of interest:

Teddy Bears: <http://www.nps.gov/thrb/historyculture/storyofteddybear.htm>
<http://www.steiffteddybears.co.uk/more-things-steiff/history-of-steiff-bears.php>

Stonechat: <http://www.birdwatchireland.ie/IrelandsBirds/Chats/Stonechat/tabid/1136/Default.aspx>
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdguide/name/s/stonechat/>

Captain Cockle - Superstitious Fishermen & Mermaids: www.spindriftpress.com www.savethemanatee.org

An A to Z of Coastal Life: <http://www.dttas.ie/maritime/english/about-irish-coast-guard-0> www.bim.ie/training/

Dairy Farming: <http://www.ifa.ie/sectors/dairy/> <http://agriaware.ie/primarylevel/>

Brown Bear: <http://www.nps.gov/katm/photosmultimedia/brown-bear-frequently-asked-questions.htm>
<http://www.rte.ie/news/special-reports/2011/0707/303412-bears/>

Iceland: <http://www.visiticeland.com/>

Tracking Sharks in the Ocean: <http://www.ocearch.org/>

The Zonkey:
<http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/6755/20140425/zonkey-a-donkey-zebra-hybrid-born-at-mexican-zoo-video.htm>

Ladybird Survey: <http://www.biology.ie/home.php?m=ladybirds2>

Tawny Owl Train Ride:
<http://www.itv.com/news/anglia/story/2014-03-19/tiny-tawny-owl-lucky-to-be-alive-after-300-mile-train-ride/>

Umbrellas Recording Rainfall: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-27222282>

Pool Safety: <http://www.iws.ie/>

We cannot be responsible for the content of external websites, so please observe due care when accessing any site on the internet.

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Wordsearch



Nature's Web Summer 2014 Wordsearch

Try out this giant wordsearch containing words
found in this issue of the newsletter.

M	D	R	T	D	A	E	S	I	F	P	L	N	D	E	S	S	U
L	R	M	A	W	A	D	A	I	Z	E	N	O	R	E	B	B	R
I	Q	A	K	E	I	V	S	L	F	Q	Q	I	I	W	O	Y	F
Y	C	C	F	A	B	H	I	I	F	Z	Z	T	B	B	X	T	S
D	B	E	M	E	E	Y	L	D	O	E	Z	I	Y	S	W	O	C
T	C	R	L	R	H	L	D	N	S	P	G	T	D	Z	U	R	V
Z	E	T	M	A	A	T	K	D	I	H	Q	S	A	O	P	L	O
M	A	E	I	T	N	E	N	V	E	U	E	R	L	M	X	B	O
Q	N	B	S	Y	Y	D	K	O	I	T	P	E	Z	S	K	R	N
R	H	A	Z	D	J	V	P	T	N	C	G	P	H	B	O	O	J
O	O	U	M	B	R	E	L	L	A	W	V	U	J	Y	V	W	W
C	T	A	H	C	E	N	O	T	S	D	O	S	V	N	S	N	D
D	A	I	R	Y	F	A	R	M	E	R	V	D	Z	I	J	B	S
E	C	I	V	D	A	Y	T	E	F	A	S	L	O	O	P	E	H
A	D	U	K	W	T	R	Y	T	V	P	X	E	W	T	L	A	A
X	S	Y	M	W	R	Q	C	G	H	D	E	W	C	O	R	R	R
P	S	T	S	Z	I	P	A	T	C	C	J	L	E	B	J	Z	K
Z	I	N	U	C	S	N	O	Y	C	V	N	G	S	R	E	G	S

Brown Bear
Coastal Life
Cows
Dairy Farmer
David Sheehy
Down on
the Farm
Fishermen
Iceland
Ladybird
Mermaids
Owl
Pool Safety
Advice
Sharks
Stonechat
Superstition
Teddy Bear
Umbrella
Zonkey



(Over,Down,Direction) Brown Bear (17,8,S); Coastal Life (1,12,NE); Cows (18,5,W); Dairy Farmer (1,13,E); David (13,12,N); Teddy Bear (11,9,NW); Umbrella (3,11,E); Zonkey (11,4,SW).
(1,8,NE); Owl (15,16,NW); Pool Safety Advice (16,14,W); Sharks (18,13,S); Stonechat (10,12,W); Superstition (13,12,N);

Nature's Noticeboard!

Summer 2014



unshine means slapping on sunscreen, a hat and covering up your skin to prevent sunburn. Sunshine can also mean a trip to the beach and swimming so spend a few minutes looking at the Irish Water Safety website www.iws.ie before heading off.



nique paintings without paint! Using water as "paint", draw pictures with a wet brush outside on the path or patio. Quickly take a photo before it dries and create unique pieces of art. Remember the hotter the day, the quicker the water will dry!



ake a special effort not to waste water. Shorten the length of time you spend in the shower. Have you ever timed yourself to see how long the shower is running? Reducing the time by one or two minutes could save a lot of water over a period of time.



ake a picnic. It can be a simple sandwich and a piece of fruit. Pack them into reusable containers and take a walk with your family though a national park, along a quiet country trail or to the beach and remember to notice nature around you as walk.



mpty shoe boxes and other cardboard boxes can be reused. Spend a rainy afternoon making something new from something old. Make a memory box, a space station, a bookshelf, a doll's house or a farm for your herd of cows. Let your imagination run wild!



ecord your summer nature sightings in rhyme. Write a poem about the animals and plants you have noticed, the type of weather you had on your holidays and where you visited.

Sherkin Island Marine Station would like to thank the following for their help with this newsletter, especially Cally Harmer, John Joyce, Michael Ludwig, Robbie Murphy, David Sheehy, Roger Sweeney, Jez Wickens and Alan and Elaine Wilson.

Visit the Sherkin Island Marine Station website at www.sherkinmarine.ie