

Nature's Web

Issue No. 46

Summer 2017

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A large, vibrant sunset over a body of water. The sun is a bright white circle in the center, surrounded by a glow of yellow and orange. The water reflects the colors of the sky. In the distance, there are silhouettes of hills or mountains. A small boat is visible on the water in the lower right.

SUMMER IS HERE!

Image courtesy of Robbie Murphy

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Editor's Page

Fantastic Foxes!

In early May, two curious foxes were hanging out near where my brother was working on Sherkin Island. They didn't seem to mind that he was nearby and gave him plenty of time to grab his phone. He took a great shot of a female fox and her cub and another of the cub feeding.

Foxes are common on Sherkin and, although they are usually wary animals and are more often seen at night, some do venture out during the day. They largely feed on a diet of earthworms and insects. In late summer and autumn they have the added bonus of delicious blackberries. However, foxes will take advantage of other opportunities to feed and at low tide they will often feed on crabs. Recently I saw one catch a rat! Foxes are also scavengers and come close to houses in search of scraps.



Images courtesy of Michael Murphy



AS GAELGE! We are delighted to have teamed up with An Gúm, who are translating Nature's Web into Irish. Issues are now available, as gaeilge, at:

<http://www.gaeilge.ie/maidir-le-foras-na-gaeilge/an-gum/lion-dulra/>

Soy & Honey Glazed Rainbow Trout with Cucumber & Mint



Photo courtesy of www.bordbia.ie

What you need:

- 4 rainbow trout fillets
- 4 tablesp. each of light soy sauce, clear honey and white wine vinegar
- 200g long-grain or jasmine rice
- ½ tablesp. olive oil
- 200g frozen peas
- 1 small cucumber, diced
- Small bunch mint leaves

What to do:

- Mix the soy sauce, honey and vinegar together in a non metallic bowl. Set aside half for your dipping sauce. Add the trout fillets to the remainder and marinate for about 20 minutes.
- Cook the rice according to the packet instructions.
- Meanwhile heat the grill to high, place the trout fillets and marinade on a sheet of tin foil (turn it up at the edges to keep in the juices) and grill for 5 to 8 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fillets, until the trout is cooked through.
- Heat a splash of olive oil in a frying pan and fry the rice with peas and cucumber for a couple of minutes, until the peas have completely defrosted. Then stir through the mint leaves
- Divide the rice between four plates. Place the trout on top of the rice and serve with the reserved marinade as a dipping sauce along with a green salad or steamed pak choi.

Make sure all the bones are removed from the trout. Get your Fishmonger to do this for you. Other fish you could use: Hake, haddock, whiting.

Brought to you by Bord Bia www.bordbia.ie

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Nature's Web!

Dear Reader,



Welcome everyone to the Summer 2017 issue of Nature's Web. In this issue we meet Ríona Murray, a Primary School Teacher at St. Enda's National School, Kilnadur, Dunmanway, Co. Cork. She tells us what she enjoys about her job and how much she loves spending time in the outdoors. We take a look at the South American Coypu, a large rodent, which has recently been spotted in the wild in Cork City and is considered an invasive species in Ireland. As well as learning about the Coconut, if you are feeling creative, you can also make your own palm tree! Check out nature news from around the world on page 12 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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Winged Seafarers!

Some seabirds spend most of their life on the sea, coming on to land just to reproduce. Here are a few seabirds whose bodies have adapted to living in the harsh conditions at sea.



Fulmar

A

Image © Robbie Murphy



Albatross

C

By JJ Harrison, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Diomedea_exulans_in_flight_-_SE_Tasmania.jpg (CC BY-SA 3.0)



Penguin

D

By Sharmil Bhata, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Emperor_Penguin_Marche.jpg (CC BY-SA 3.0)

Can you match up the birds with the descriptions below?
(Answers on page 13)



Storm Petrel

F

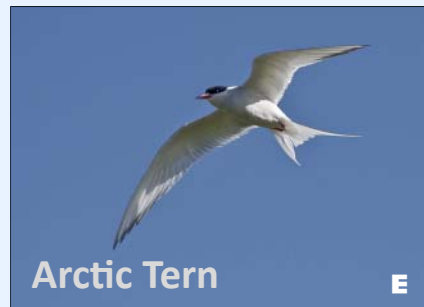
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Gannet

B

Image © Robbie Murphy



Arctic Tern

E

By PJT36, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arctic_tern#/media/File:Sterna_paradisaea-pjt1.jpg (CC BY-SA 3.0)



Puffin

G

By Boasworm, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Puffin_Latnab.jpg (CC BY-SA 3.0)

- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| 1. These seabirds have brightly coloured beaks during the breeding season. | _____ | 1 |
| 2. These seabirds cannot fly but are excellent swimmers. | _____ | 2 |
| 3. These seabirds are mostly black, with a band of white near the tail. | _____ | 3 |
| 4. These seabirds have white plumage, with black wing tips and a creamy coloured head. | _____ | 4 |
| 5. These seabirds are gull-like and have grey upper wings and a white body. | _____ | 5 |
| 6. These seabirds have the longest wingspan of any bird. | _____ | 6 |
| 7. These grey and white seabirds have small, slender bodies, with a black cap and red beak. | _____ | 7 |

Coconut Palm

Scientific Name: *Cocos nucifera* **Irish Name:** Pailm chnó cócó



Coconut palms can live for up to 100 years, producing an average of average of 100 coconuts per year during its most productive years.

Coconut Palms and tropical beaches often go together. Though they are referred to as palm “trees”, in the botanical world they are not considered trees at all—they are large plants. Their fruit, the coconut, is an extremely versatile fruit and, along with other parts of the plant, has hundreds of different uses.

Coconut palms are found in tropical areas around the world, along sandy shorelines. The buoyance of the fruit means it can travel great distances by water, washing up on shores and establishing itself. It is a self-contained seed germinator, have all it requires within itself to produce a plant. Once it finds a free-draining soil, warm temperatures and sufficient rain, it will grow, producing fibrous roots that grow outwards from the plan and remain near the surface. Only a few roots grow downwards to help anchor the plant.



A Coconut Palm germinating on the Punaluu Black Sand Beach, island of Hawai'i.

A few of the different uses for coconut:

Coconut is grown as a crop in more than 93 countries of the world. The main commercial growers are in India, Indonesia and the Philippines. Harvesting the coconuts is done by skilled climbers or from the ground using a knife attached to a long pole. Not only is coconut eaten for its many health benefits, the whole plant has a wide variety of uses. Some of these are listed below.



Outer layer: produces coir, a natural flexible fibre for making floor mats, brushes, ropes, stuffing mattresses, etc..

Shell and Fibrous husk: pot for plants, bowls and utensils for food, musical instruments, fuel.

Flesh:

coconut oil, coconut milk, coconut and palm sugar, dried coconut for baking. The dried flesh is known as “copra” and it is from this that coconut oil is extracted. Coconut oil has many uses, including soap, cosmetics, and cooking.

Water: as a drink, for a making wine and vinegar. Mixed with the flesh to make coconut milk.

Coconut palm leaves: for roofing, kindling, making baskets and mats.

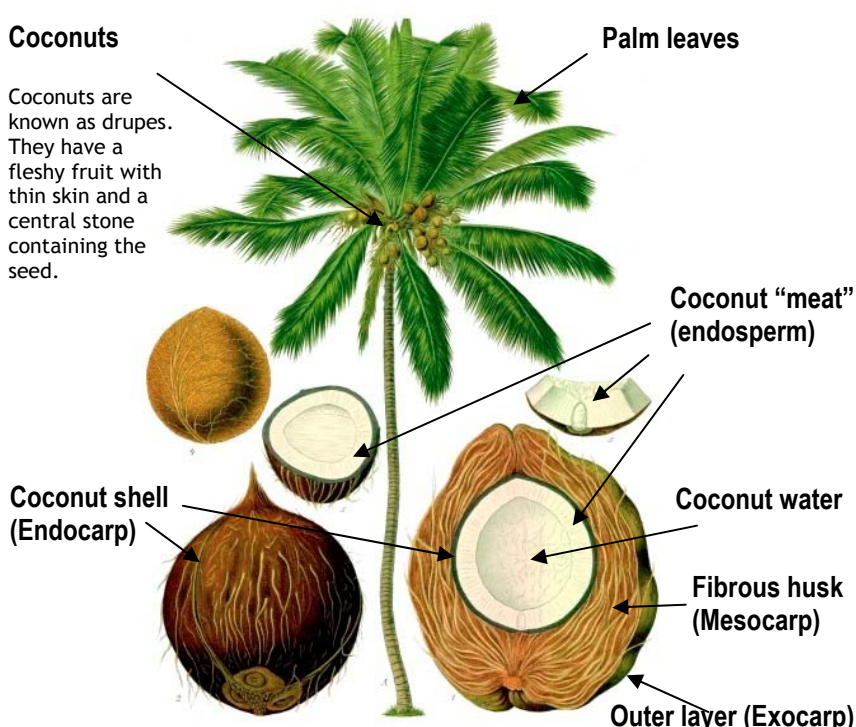
Coconut palm trunk: for making furniture and houses.

Coconut palm roots: as a dye, a mouthwash and medicinal purposes.



Coconuts

Coconuts are known as drupes. They have a fleshy fruit with thin skin and a central stone containing the seed.



Activity

Making a Desert Island



Print and cut out the leaf template. Trace onto the green card.



Cut out leaves. You will need ten.



Fold each leaf lengthways.



Curl each leaf around your finger.



Using tape, fix a leaf to the end of a pipe cleaner.



Bind the 'trunk' with more pipe cleaners., leaving about 10cms unbound at the bottom.



Spread out the bottom 10 cm of the pipe cleaners so it will stand.



Place on a plate or lid and cover with sand, which should hold it in place.

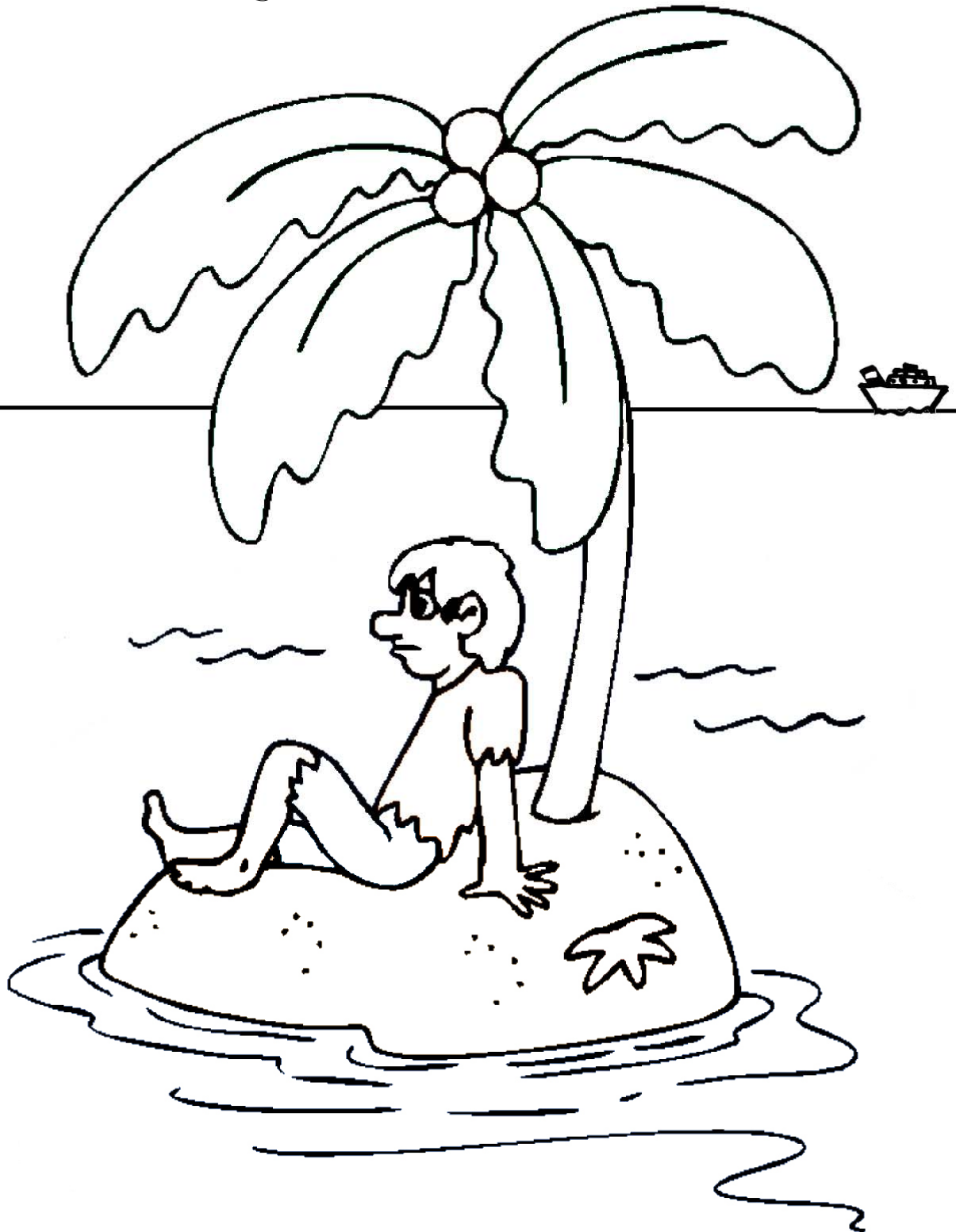


YOU WILL NEED:

- Green card
- Pipe cleaners
- Tape
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Sand
- Plate or lid

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Day Dreams!



All in a Day's Work

Ríona Murray—Primary School Teacher

Ríona Murray is a teacher in St. Enda's National School, Kilnadur, Dunmanway, Co. Cork. It is a two teacher school and she teaches the children in 2nd to 6th class.



Ríona Murray

Photos courtesy of Ríona Murray

things using our own produce. Our favourite dish has been a huge pot of soup for the whole school. If there is something interesting in the news or going on in the area we can stop what we normally do and study that. Teaching in a Primary School is great.

What is your main aim?

To do the best that I can for the children in my class.

What's the best thing about your job?

The children. They're great fun. I teach the children in my class for four years and I love that I get to know them really well. I know what's going on in their lives and what they like and dislike. They're like my own children by the time they leave the school in 6th class.

What is the worst thing about your job?

We never seem to have enough time in the school day!

Do you enjoy your work?

I love my job. I love the flexibility. I really enjoy the children's reactions when they are enjoying their work or when we head out on trips. Schools are such busy places nowadays and we have many visitors to the school working on Art, Music, Sport, Nature and more. It's never boring.

Where does your work take you?

Some of the best places we've gone to are outdoor education centres; we just love being out in nature, kayaking, swimming and even obstacle courses in the mud. The children always manage to beat me! The younger children recently had a particularly fantastic trip where they went pond dipping. They were so excited to see

all the living creatures in the pond. This year my class went to Manch, near Ballineen, Co. Cork, to the INFF (Irish National Forestry Foundation) and they loved the experience. They collected and analysed mini-beasts, studied habitats and leaves and trees. It was a great day out.

Do you work alone or as part of a team?

I work as part of a team of teachers, Special Needs Assistants and the children are a vital part of our school team too. We also have many visiting experts who regularly come to the school.

What do you like to do outside of your job?

I love being outdoors. I love to swim in Lough Hyne, a saltwater lake which is a marine nature reserve near Skibbereen. I love spotting the fish, starfish, and urchins under the water. It's amazing. I really enjoy being out and about with my two young children too. We regularly walk in the local woods and beach. My daughter loves checking under rocks (remembering to turn them back over again!) and in rock pools to see what she can spot. It's remarkable what you can find if you just take the time to look.

What is best piece of advice you have ever had?

Get out into nature!



Working in the school garden.

Have you always been interested in what you do?

Yes. I've always been interested in community and people. I was a member and voluntary leader in a great organisation called Foróige for many years and it made me realise that I wanted to work in education. When I was in transition year in secondary school I completed a block of work experience in a National School to see if I would really like it so I must have been thinking about it back then too.

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

When I finished my leaving certificate I didn't know if I wanted to be a secondary school teacher or a primary school teacher so I did a Bachelor of Arts degree in UCC. After this course I could have applied to be a primary or secondary school teacher. I decided to be a primary school teacher so I applied for and completed a Postgraduate Diploma. I also completed a Masters in Science by night while teaching.

What is a day in your life like?

No two days are the same really. We have the usual Irish, English and Maths etc. but the great thing about Primary School teaching is that you can decide to do something different if you want to as well. We work on projects or, if the weather is good, we can get out into the garden. We have a small school garden that we all love. We manage to squeeze lots of vegetables into the space; potatoes, squash, carrots, onions, herbs and more. Each year we cook different



St. Enda's National School

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Coypu

Scientific Name: *Myocastor coypus* **Irish Name:** Cadhpú



By Peleg, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1107460>

The Coypu is a mammal native to South America. It is semi-aquatic, living in and around rivers, lakes, marshes and other wet areas. This nocturnal animal is actually a large rodent, measuring 1 metre from head to tail. It has two large orange-yellow front teeth, which are a characteristic of the animal. It looks something between a beaver and a large rat and is sometimes confused with an otter. In fact, another name for it is the River Rat. With webbed hind feet, the Coypu is an expert swimmer and can stay under water for up to five minutes. In the wild, its predators include alligators, turtles, large snakes and birds of prey.

Coypu have lots of babies. They have two to three litters per year, with an average of five young per litter. They are born with full fur and with their eyes open. They mature quickly and have a life span of about 8 to 10 years.

Invasive Species

Coypu have been introduced in many countries around the world, to be farmed for their fur. They have a soft fur known as Nutria, and it is by this name that the animal is known in North America. Farm escapees have formed feral populations. Feral means living in the wild but descended from captive or domestic animals. These feral animals can be very destructive in their non-native homes and it is feared that if a feral population in Ireland takes hold, they will cause huge damage to our habitats (see page 9).

Relatives

The South American Coypu is the only member of the Myocastoridae Family. It is related to a bigger group of animals, known as Rodents, which includes such animals as the beaver, rats, mice, squirrels and hamsters.



By Steve, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:American_Beaver.jpg
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Image courtesy of www.rps.gov

The Beaver (left) has a bigger, shorter and flatter tail, while the Coypu's is more rat-like. The Rat (right) is much smaller than the Coypu and has a longer snout.

FACT FILE

Length: 1 metre long

Weight: 5 - 9 kg

Colour: Brown body, lighter underneath, white snout

Diet: Mostly herbivorous, eating aquatic plants and roots. It does however eat mussels and snails in some habitats.

Habitat: Rivers, lakes, marshes and other wet areas.

A Metre-long Rodent on the River Lee in Cork!

There was a recent sighting of a highly invasive species of rodent on the River Lee in Cork. From a footbridge in the City, a passer-by saw a 1 metre South American Coypu. This is a highly invasive, non-native species and their burrowing and clearing of vegetation can cause a lot of damage to river banks. Over the last few years, 10 Coypus have been removed from a nearby river. It is believed two or three of these animals were released into a river two years ago and have begun breeding.



By José Reynaldo da Fonseca (CC-BY-SA-3.0 https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File%3ARatao_do_banhado_1_REFON.jpg)

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Invasive Species Alert

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

Coypu



Yellow/orange front teeth, webbed feet, white muzzle (Shutterstock) Up to 1m long (Eamonn Brennan)

Invasive species alert for: *Myocastor coypus*

Common name(s): Coypu, Nutria

Why the concern?

- Coypu are herbivores and impact negatively on aquatic vegetation, including rare and threatened species.
- Coypu are thought to impact on aquatic birds by decreasing nest habitat.
- Coypu burrows undermine the banks of rivers and dykes causing instability.
- It is a pest of agriculture areas feeding on a variety of crops including root crops.
- Coypu have also been shown to carry a number of diseases of importance to humans and domestic animals.
- Since the first verified sighting in 2010, Coypu have been seen and reported from 7 locations. Just one animal was seen in 6 of the sites but a population of 10 animals was removed from Cork City in 2016. Sighting of a Coypu in Cork City in 2017 raises concern of further spread.

What does it look like? Large semi-aquatic rodent that may be confused with otter. Following characteristics can help with identification:

- Large rodent up to 1 meter in head to tail length
- It can weigh 5-9kg
- Dark fur often with lighter ends and has a white muzzle, a long cylindrical tail and small ears.
- Distinctive features include **large bright orange-yellow incisor (front) teeth** that are usually visible. It has webbed hind feet.

Where might I see it?

Coypu are generally found near permanent water, particularly reed beds and swamp/marsh. Also found in rivers, streams, lakes, ponds and brackish marsh in coastal areas.

What should I do?

- Report any suspected sightings with a photograph if possible.
- If you own one, do not allow it to reproduce, escape or release it to the wild. Please rehome or euthanize if no longer wanted.



Report sightings to danny.okeeffe@ahg.gov.ie or
<http://records.biodiversityireland.ie>
For more information: <http://species.biodiversityireland.ie>



Report Sightings

Date issued: May, 2017

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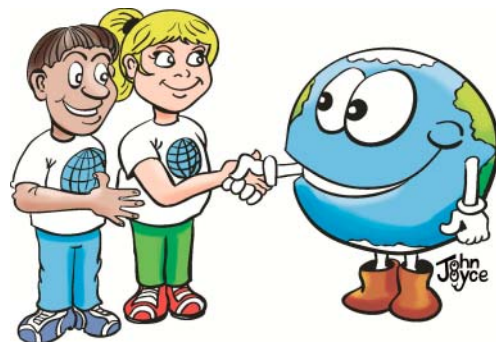


Black John - the Bogus Pirate

Black John the Bogus Pirate

By John Joyce

The Ocean & Humans are Totally Interconnected



Avast there, Mateys! Today we come to possibly the most important of the Seven Principles of Ocean Literacy, which states that the oceans and humans are totally interconnected. In simple terms, this means that actions we take on the land have an effect on the Ocean which, in turn, can have an effect on us.

While many of us know that caring for the Ocean is a 'good thing' to do, most of don't know just how vital it is to keep the Ocean healthy. This is because the Ocean is our 'life support system' here on 'Spaceship Earth' and, if that life support system were to fail, life on Earth as we know it would cease to exist.

The Ocean provides us with food – in the form of fish and shellfish. It also helps us transport goods and passengers all around the world by way of ships. The Ocean is a source of recreation and enjoyment – from tourism, beachcombing and sunbathing, to more active pursuits like sailing, swimming, surfing and SCUBA diving. Many medicines come from animals and plants that live in the Ocean, which is also a limitless source of ideas and inspiration for artists, writers, musicians, filmmakers and storytellers of all kinds. The Ocean is also a source of energy – be it from offshore drilling for oil and gas below the seabed, to the harnessing of tidal and wave power to generate electricity.

On a much larger scale, ocean currents help regulate our climate by transporting warm water from the Equator to the North and South poles and cooler water back again to the Equator. Seawater also evaporates to form rainclouds, which then transport freshwater far inland to fill rivers and water crops.

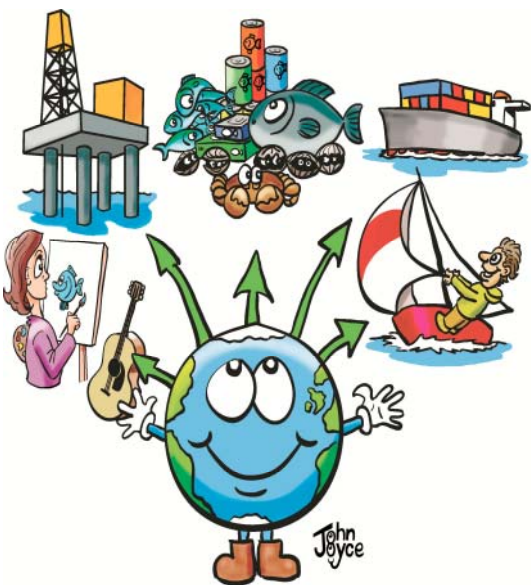
Importantly, the Ocean is home to trillions upon trillions of microscopic plants called 'phytoplankton' which – like plants on land - absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and give off oxygen – enough for every second breath that you take!

The problem is, that we humans often forget or ignore the facts that the Ocean is not limitless and that our activities on land and at sea can effect its ability to support life on Earth.

Unregulated industrial fishing not only reduces the populations of commercial fish species such as cod, herring and mackerel – sometimes to dangerously low levels - but also other fish species trapped in fishing gear as 'by-catch'. Untreated sewage and other industrial wastes pumped into the Ocean can not only poison marine life with toxic chemical, but also in breaking down, use up the oxygen in seawater, making it impossible for marine life to flourish.

Learn More at:

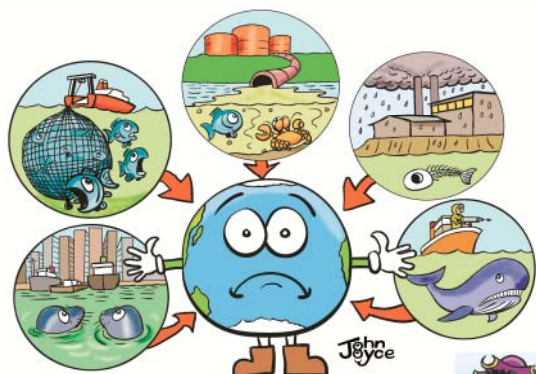
www.explorers.ie – The Marine Institute's Education page for schools.
http://oceanliteracy.wp2.coexploration.org/?page_id=164 – Great ocean literacy site with lots of resources and information
<http://www.emsea.eu/> - Home of the European Marine Educators Association.



Large quantities of carbon dioxide, released into the atmosphere from burning oil, coal and wood combine with rainwater to create carbonic acid which, in turn, flows into the Ocean – increasing its acidity and reducing its ability to support life.

Humankind has also killed off most of the larger animals in the Ocean through unrestricted whaling and fishing, while human developments on shore have changed beaches where marine birds and mammals come ashore to breed. In short, we are being careless with our planet's 'life support system'.

And like astronauts whose life support system has failed, we could find ourselves in serious trouble aboard 'Spaceship Earth'! Unless we change our ways, become 'Ocean Literate' and realise the true interconnectedness between ourselves and the Ocean, we could be in serious trouble in years to come.



Follow 'Black John the Bogus Pirate' on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BlackJohntheBogusPirate/>



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Marine Life

An A to Z of Ocean Life



Oceans cover up to 71% of the Earth's surface and in places can be as deep as 10 km. It is the largest of all habitats and home to a huge variety of organisms., from the largest animal on the planet—the Blue Whale, to the tiniest of plankton. There are five oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern. The largest and deepest is the Pacific Ocean and the smallest is the Arctic.

Can you match up the descriptions below with the A to Z of Ocean Life?

Answers on page 13

Atlantic
Birds
Currents
Diving
Electricity
Fishing
Gulf Stream
Hurricane
Icebergs
Journey
Krill
Land
Mountains
Navigation
Oceanographer
Pollution
earthquake
Reef
Seabed
Temperature
Unsafe
Volcanoes
Water
eXplorers
Yachts
Zooplankton

1. Without this there would be no oceans.
2. This can harm the marine life in the oceans.
3. Some whales love to eat these small animals.
4. This helps seafarers to find their way.
5. An aftershock from one of these could cause a tsunami.
6. Someone who studies the oceans.
7. Fast moving bodies of water.
8. You need a microscope to see these tiny animals.
9. A famous one of these is on the east coast of Australia.
10. When these erupt they can create small islands.
11. They are made up of frozen freshwater.
12. If you sail in an unseaworthy boat, it will be this.
13. If it becomes too high, the icebergs will melt.
14. The energy from waves can produce this.
15. The second largest ocean.
16. These usually travel by sail rather than by motor.
17. These usually travel on the wing.
18. An activity that lets people to see what is underwater.
19. People who work on trawlers do this.
20. Birds that cross oceans go on a long one of these.
21. A violent storm that often starts on the ocean.
22. A warm current that flows around Ireland.
23. Another name for the ocean floor.
24. Seafarers are happy to see this after a long voyage.
25. These giants of the land are also under the oceans.
26. Early ones of these were St. Brendan and Marco Polo.



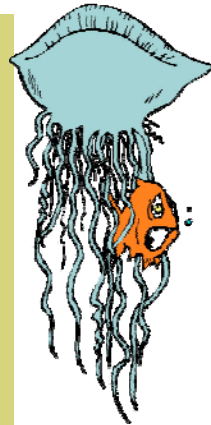
The World Around Us



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

The Return of a Beach on Achill Island

In the winter of 1984, a beach on Achill Island, off the coast of Co. Mayo, was washed away by a number of storms that hit the island and the west coast of Ireland. When the sand disappeared, it left behind only bare rock and rockpools. Now, 33 years later the beach is back! Over a few days at the end of April 2017, the ocean dumped thousands of tonnes of sand back onto the rocks near Dooagh village. It is expected that the new sandy beach will remain in place for summer 2017.



OOPS! REVISED Advice for Treating Portuguese Man o'War Jellyfish Stings

For years, the advice for treating a Portuguese Man O'War sting was to rinse it in seawater and then apply ice or other materials. In a new study, scientists from NUI Galway have found this to be actually the worst thing you can do! Working with jellyfish sting experts from the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, they found that the best treatment is to rinse the sting site with vinegar, washing away the tentacles and then immersing the sting site in 45°C hot water (or apply a hot pack) for 45 minutes. So, pack a bottle of vinegar if going to tropical beaches!

Last year there were numerous sightings of Portuguese Man o'War jellyfish on Irish beaches. If you hear of sightings at a beach near you, be vigilant.

Counting Albatross from Space

The Northern Royal albatross is an endangered species and nests almost entirely on some rocky sea-stacks close to New Zealand's Chatham Islands. As these stacks are so inaccessible, counting these birds is very difficult and expensive. However scientists, led by experts at the British Antarctic Survey, have found a new way of counting them—from space! With help from the DigitalGlobe WorldView-3 satellite, scientists can capture images of objects as small as 30cm across. Though the birds only appear as white dots, their white plumages show up against the surrounding vegetation, allowing the scientists to count the birds by recording the dots.



A Northern Royal Albatross.

Image courtesy of JJ Harrison. (CC BY-SA 3.0) https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Diomedea_sanfordi_-_SE_Tasmania.jpg



A First Retirement Home for Pandas?

In the wild, the lifespan of a panda is about 20 years; in captivity, pandas are living a lot longer—for example, in southeast China, one has reached 37 years of age. Many of these elderly pandas need specialised care. They can have stiff joints, failing eyesight, poor digestion and bad teeth. To give these pandas the care that they need, China is planning on opening a retirement home designed especially for them, where they can avail of a special diet and light exercise.

No Selfies with Seals

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the USA, have given out some good advice—don't take selfies with seals! They warn us that it might be tempting to get the perfect shot of yourself or your child with an adorable sea pup, but they say to please do the right thing and leave them alone. Getting too close to a wild animal puts you—and the animal—at risk. Seals have powerful jaws and a mouthful of sharp teeth, and can leave a nasty bite. NOAA has received human injury reports from people getting too close or "cornering" an animal for a quick photo. When you get close to a wild animal, you risk stressing or threatening it, and stressed animals are much more likely to act unpredictably. Seals bite!



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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 The Coypu is a rodent. True or false?
- 2 Which seabird has the longest wingspan of all birds?
- 3 Humans and which large bodies of water are totally interconnected?
- 4 What job does Riona Murray work at?
- 5 On which New Zealand islands do the endangered Northern Royal albatross nest almost entirely?
- 6 For which invasive species did the National Biodiversity Data Centre recently issue an "Invasive Species Alert"?
- 7 Coconut palms grow in cold climates. True or false?
- 8 Which animal was recently photographed feeding its cub on Sherkin Island?
- 9 Where does Riona Murray like to go swimming?
- 10 In China, what type of residence is being built for elderly panda bears?
- 11 From which part of the world does the Coypu originate?
- 12 The NOAA are asking people not to take selfies with which animal?
- 13 Which part of the coconut can be used in baking?
- 14 What are the new first aid guidelines if you are strung by a Portuguese Man o' War?
- 15 On which river in Ireland was a Coypu seen recently?

Answers Above: (1) True. (2) The Albatross. (3) Oceans. (4) A Primary School Teacher. (5) Chatham Islands. (6) Coypu. (7) False. They grow in tropical areas. (8) The flesh. (9) Lough Hyne. (10) A retirement home. (11) South America. (12) Seals. (13) The flesh. (14) The best first aid is to rinse with vinegar, remove the tentacles and then immerse in 450C hot water (or apply a hot pack) for 45 minutes. (15) River Lee.

ANSWERS FOR PAGE 11: 1=Water; 2=Pollution; 3=Krill; 4=Navigation; 5=earthquake; 6=Oceanographer; 7=Currents; 8=Zooplankton; 9=Reef; 10=Volcanoes; 11=Icebergs; 12=Unsafer; 13=Temperature; 14=Electricity; 15=Atlantic; 16=Vachis; 17=Birds; 18=Diving; 19=Fishing; 20=Journey; 21=Hurricane; 22=Gulf Stream; 23=Seabed; 24=Land; 25=Mountains; 26=Explorers.

ANSWERS FOR PAGE 2: 1. G = Puffin; 2. D = Penguin; 3. F = Storm Petrel; 4. B = Gannet; 5. A = Fulmar; 6. C = Albatross; 7. E = Arctic Tern.

Think of a Title

Have fun with your friends making up a title for this Eurasian Collared-Dove from British Columbia, Canada.



Image courtesy of Alan D. Wilson www.naturespicsonline.com

Nature Jokes

What did the rabbit say to the carrot?

It's been nice gnawing you.



What do you call a penguin on a desert island?

Lost!

What did the little tree say to the big tree?

Leaf me alone!



What happens when you throw a red rock in the Black Sea?

It sinks.



What has no beginning, end or middle and touches every continent?

The Ocean.

What vegetable can you throw away the outside, cook the inside, eat the outside, and throw away the inside?

Corn.

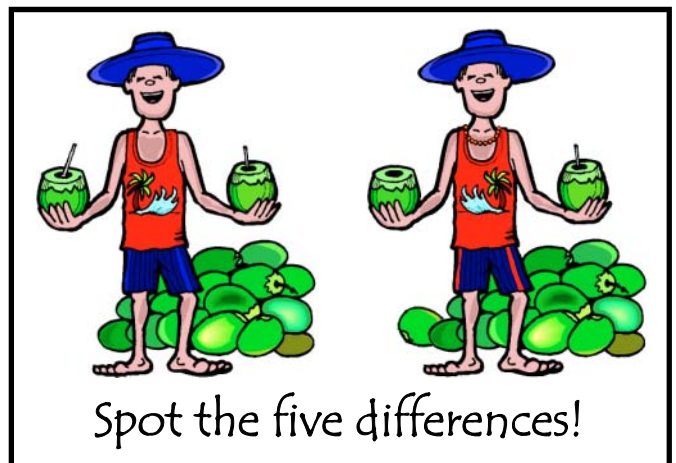
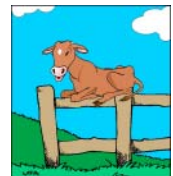


Where do sharks go for the summer holidays?

Finland.

What time is it when a cow sits on a fence?

Time to fix the fence.



Learn More



Only €2.10 each including postage or €12.00 (plus €3.00 p&p) for all eight! 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 Ireland. 206pp

Only €8.50 inc postage



Ireland's Hidden Depths is another Sherkin Island Marine Station publication. 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

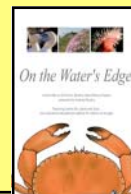


Sea Life DVD:

"On the Water's Edge"

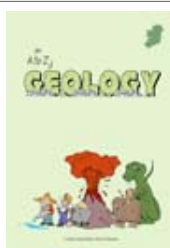
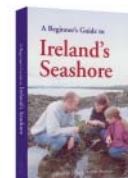
Produced by Sherkin Island Marine Station, the DVD 'On the Water's Edge', features a short film on life beside the sea.

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. 206pp

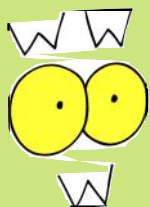
Only €8.00 inc postage



"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 €5.99 plus €1.00 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:

Foxes: http://www.noticenature.ie/July_Species_of_the_Month.html <http://www.rte.ie/radio/mooneygoeswild/factsheets/fox/>

Seabirds: <http://www.birdwatchireland.ie/IrelandsBirds/tabid/541/Default.aspx>
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/read-and-learn/fun-facts-and-articles/features/seabirds.aspx>

Coconut Palm: <http://www.agroforestry.org/free-publications/traditional-tree-profiles>

Primary School Teacher: <http://www.teachingcouncil.ie/en/Registration/How-do-I-register-/Qualifications/Primary-Teachers-Qualified-In-Ireland/Qualification-Requirements-for-Primary-Teachers-Qualifications-Awarded-in-Ireland-.html>

Coypu: <http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/coypu-species-alert/> <https://www.rte.ie/news/munster/2017/0515/875278-cork-coypu/>
<https://www.nwrc.usgs.gov/special/nutria/>

Black John—the Bogus Pirate: <http://www.emsea.eu/> http://oceanliteracy.wp2.coexploration.org/?page_id=164
<https://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/areas-activity/education-outreach/explorers-education-programme>
<https://www.facebook.com/BlackJohntheBogusPirate/>

Oceans: <http://www.worldatlas.com/aatlas/infopage/oceans.htm> <https://www.nasa.gov/specials/ocean-worlds/>

Portuguese Man o'War: <https://www.nuigalway.ie/about-us/news-and-events/news-archive/2017/may2017/new-study-prompts-changes-to-irish-jellyfish-sting-advice.html>

Northern Royal Albatross: <http://nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/northern-royal-albatross> <http://www.doc.govt.nz/royalcam>

Pandas: <https://www.pandasinternational.org/reserves-zoos/>

Achill Island: <http://achilltourism.com/achills-new-beach-sand-returns-to-dooagh-beach/>

Seals: <http://www.noaa.gov/stories/please-no-selfies-with-seals-5-ways-to-view-wildlife-responsibly>

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

Wordsearch

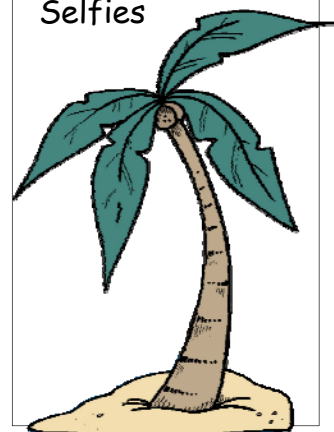


Nature's Web Summer 2017

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

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

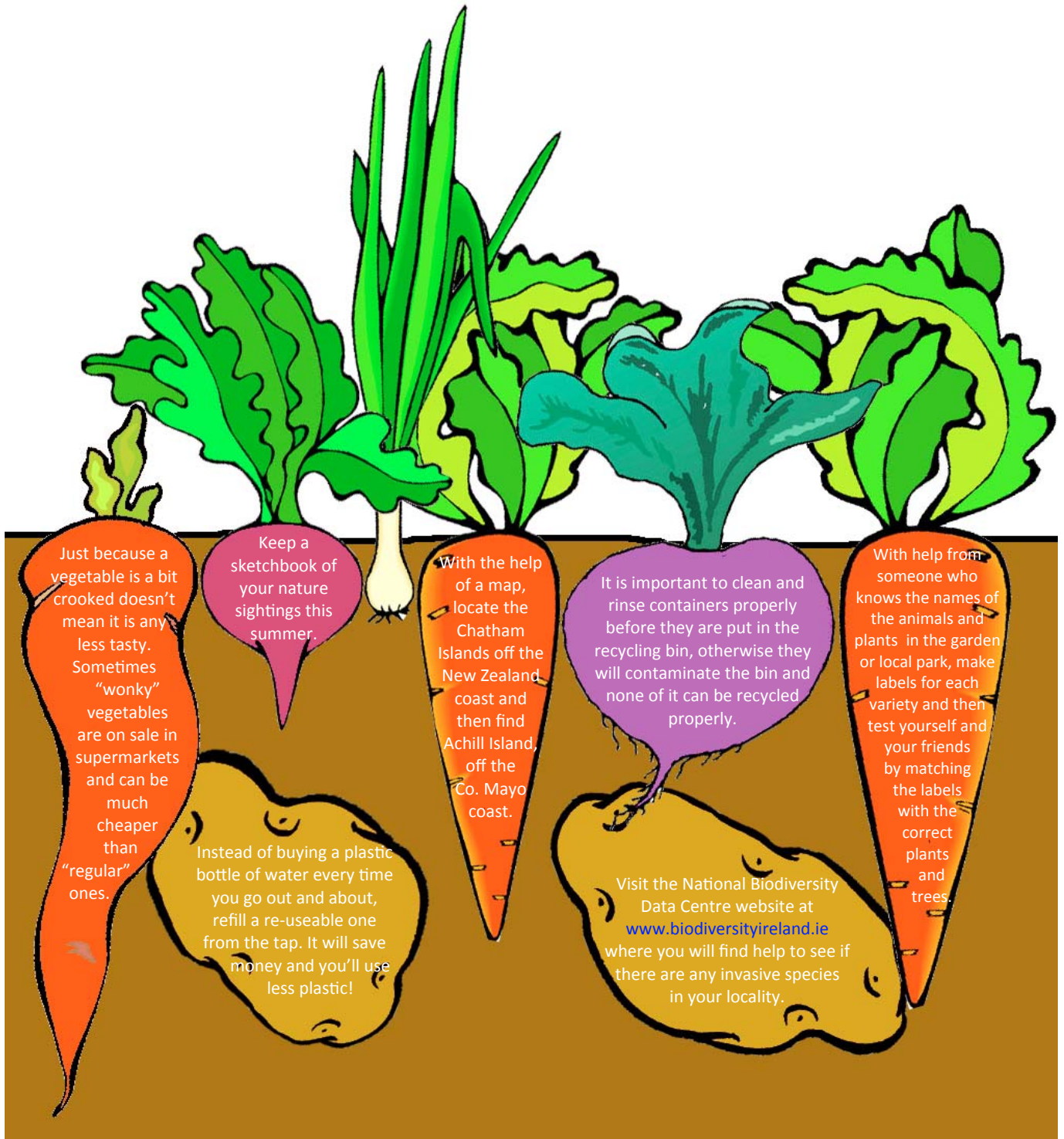
Achill Island
Albatross
Black John
Chatham Islands
Coconut
Coconut Palm
Coypu
Foxes
Invasive Species
Ocean Life
Panda
Portuguese
Man O' War
Rainbow Trout
Ríona Murray
River Lee
Seabirds
Seals
Selfies



(Over,Down,Direction): Achill Island (15,12,N); Albatross (18,7,S); Black John (9,1,SW); Chatham Islands (16,15,NW); Coconut (1,7,NE); Coconut Palm (1,14,E); Coypu (1,6,SE); Foxes (12,4,S); Invasive Species (17,13,W); Ocean Life (9,15,W); Panda (5,1,SW); Portuguese Man o' War (14,2,S); Rainbow Trout (2,12,NE); River Lee (11,8,NW); Ríona Murray (1,2,SE); Seabirds (17,12,N); Seals (5,16,W); Selfies (5,16,E).

Nature's Noticeboard!

Summer 2017



Sherkin Island Marine Station would like to thank the following for their help with this newsletter, especially John Joyce, Michael Ludwig, Michael Murphy, Robbie Murphy, Riona Murray, National Biodiversity Data Centre and Jez Wickens.

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



We appreciate support from the EPA and the Geological Survey of Ireland toward the newsletter.

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