

Nature's Web

Issue No. 54

Summer 2019

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SUMMER ON THE WING

Image courtesy of Robbie Murphy

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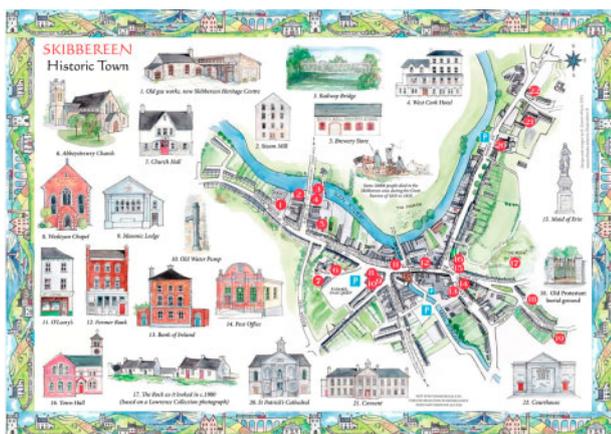
Editor's Page

'Dear Old Skibbereen'

The nearest town to Sherkin Island is Skibbereen. It is a busy market town located on the River Ilan. It's Irish name Sciobairín means a small inlet for docking boats and in olden days people from Sherkin would have travelled up the River Ilan in their boats, tied up near the centre of the town and did their shopping. Nowadays, Skibbereen is still where people from the locality do their shopping, visit the doctor and dentist, do their business in banks and the Post Office and sell their cattle in the local mart. The town is full of history and historical buildings and people can visit the Skibbereen Heritage Centre to learn more about the history of the town and the surrounding area. Cork County Council's Heritage Unit and map illustrator Rhoda Cronin-Allanic have produced an illustrated map for Skibbereen and 10 other historic towns in County Cork. They are beautiful maps and full of information about the buildings in each town.

The 11 historic towns in County Cork for which maps have been produced are:

- Bandon
- Bantry
- Blarney
- Castletownbere
- Charleville
- Clonakilty
- Dunmanway
- Kinsale
- Mitchelstown
- Schull
- Skibbereen



Maps can be downloaded for free from the following sites:
<https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/visiting-cork/cork-county-historic-town-maps>
<https://purecork.ie/plan-your-trip/tips-info/download-a-map-of-cork>

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/leon-dulra/>

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Nature's Web!



Dear Reader,

Welcome everyone to the Summer 2019 issue of Nature's Web. In this issue, Conor Nelligan, Heritage Office for Cork County, features in "All in a Day's Work" and he explains how he helps to promote the County's history and culture. One such historical place is the tower house, Desmond Castle (see page 10), located in the historic town of Kinsale. We also find out more about two closely related aquatic insects, dragonflies and damselflies, which are often seen near ponds and streams during the summer months. Also, do you know the difference between garden cucumbers and sea cucumbers? Well, in this issue we explain just how different they are!

Check out nature news from around the world on page 12 and enjoy a giggle with jokes on page 13.

We would love to hear your views and comments and suggestions for future articles. Have a good read!

Susan

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Foreign Correspondent:

Michael Ludwig

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Soft Boiled Eggs and Smoked Salmon Bagels



Photo courtesy of www.bordbia.ie

What you need:

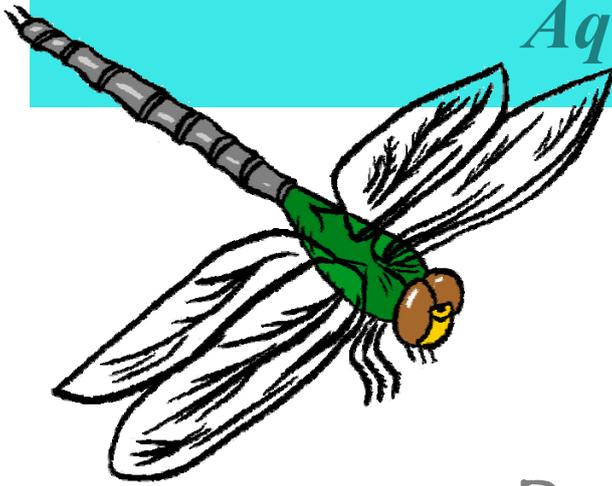
- 4 large eggs
- 2 bagels
- butter, for spreading
- 200g packet smoked salmon slices
- 2 tablesp. crème fraîche
- A little salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teasp. fresh chives, chopped

What to do:

- Place the eggs in a small pan of water and boil for 5 minutes, then drain and plunge into a bowl of iced water. Set aside for 10 minutes as this will make them much easier to peel.
- Preheat the grill to high. Cut the bagels in half and arrange on a grill rack. Cook for 1-2 minutes until toasted. Spread with a little butter.
- Place the toasted bagel halves on warmed plates and ruffle the smoked salmon slices on top. Add half a tablespoon of crème fraîche.
- Shell the eggs and cut each one in half, then arrange on top of the smoked salmon and crème fraîche. Season lightly and sprinkle with the chives to serve.
Serves 4

Brought to you by Bord Bia www.bordbia.ie

Aquatic Life



Dragonflies & Damselflies

Dragonfly Ireland 2019-2024

The National Biodiversity Data Centre and the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording for Northern Ireland (CEDaR) have just launched a new all-Ireland survey of Dragonflies and Damselflies.

The survey – ‘Dragonfly Ireland 2019–2024’ – enables and encourages volunteer citizen scientists to record sightings of dragonflies and damselflies, and to find out the state of the freshwater habitats they live in. This survey will help improve our knowledge of where dragonflies and damselflies can be found around Ireland.

The presence or absence of dragonflies and damselflies are used by scientists to tell if the water in an area is healthy or not. They need good quality water to survive into adulthood.

The information collected in this survey will help scientists to find out how good these insects are as bio-indicators of water quality and climate change.

If you know someone who might be interested in helping out, the details are available from:

<http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/record-biodiversity/dragonfly-ireland-2019-2024/>



Dragonflies and damselflies are insects and are closely related to each other. They are mostly aquatic insects, living in or near freshwater, depending on their stage of life. Both insects are similar in appearance, with long thin bodies, two pairs of transparent wings, large eyes and, being insects, have six legs. As adults, dragonflies are between 3.5 cm to 7.5 cm in length. Damselflies are approximately 3 cm to 4.5 cm in length. Dragonflies can fly with speed and great skill, while damselflies are not as strong in flight. They are both predators, feeding on smaller insects and even bees, butterflies and other dragonflies and damselflies. They can be seen in flight from May to August. and belong to the order Odonata.

Differences between Dragonflies & Damselflies

THE DRAGONFLY

- It has a strong body
- Its wings are open when it is at rest
- It has differently shaped front and back wings
- Its eyes usually touch on the top of its head
- Its flight is strong

THE DAMSELFLY

- Its body is thinner and more delicate
- Its wings are usually closed when at rest
- Both pairs of its wings are the same shape
- Its eyes on the top of its head do not touch
- Its flight is weak



A dragonfly's wings are open when at rest.



A damselfly's wings are usually closed when at rest.

Three Stages of Life

The dragonfly and damselfly have three stages in their lives: **eggs**, **larvae** and **adult**.

Once **eggs** are laid, it takes about 2-5 weeks before they hatch into the larvae stage. In their **larval** stage, which can last from one to two years, and, in some cases, up to five years, they are known as nymphs and in this immature form they don't change greatly as they grow. They moult numerous times while they are in this stage. Moulting means they shed their skin.

Their final stage is as **adult** dragonflies or damselflies. For the first day or so they are very delicate and have little colour but soon they develop their adult colouring, which varies between species and between males and females.



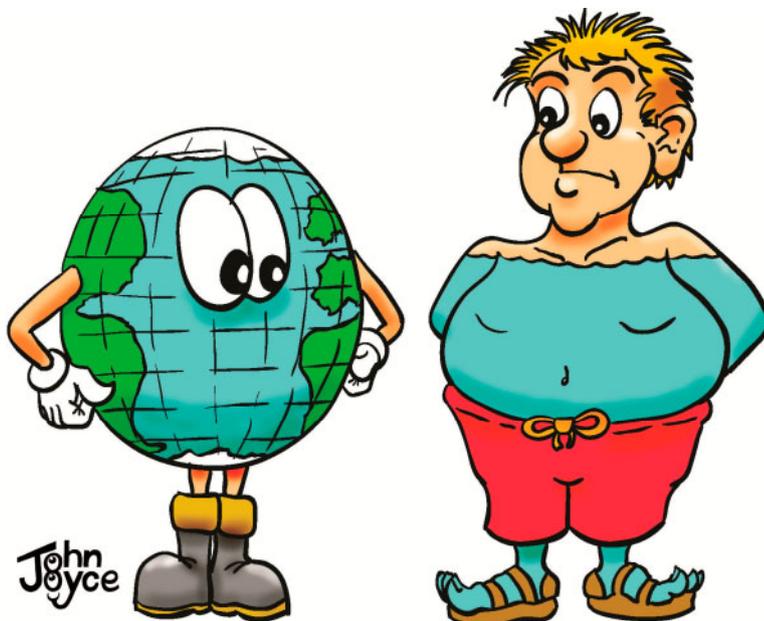
A dragonfly nymph



PLANET 'EARTH' OR PLANET 'OCEAN'?

By John Joyce

Avast there, me hearties! When people ask me what they can do to protect the marine environment I always say "tis the little things that make the biggest difference!"



Images & text copyright John Joyce

Water covers 2/3 of the surface of our planet, with the vast majority being contained in our seas and oceans. Without water, life on 'Planet Earth' would simply cease to exist. This is because all living things - such as our own human bodies - use water in all their cells, tissues and organs to regulate temperature, transport oxygen and carry away waste products such as carbon dioxide. Depending on age, health and daily intake, an average adult male body is made up of around 60% water, while an average adult female is slightly less - at 55%.

Two thirds of that water circulates around the body as blood and other fluids, while a third is contained within the cells of the muscles and other organs. These figures depend on age and body condition, with a new-born infant's body containing up to 93% water and obese people containing a much lower figure of 15% body weight, due to the fact that fat does not retain water.

We need water for almost all our bodily functions - from digestion of food and the circulation of blood, to the elimination of bodily wastes. But, in spite of water's life-giving properties, our bodies lose water all the time through perspiration and by the creation of urine and faeces, so we need to replace the water constantly by drinking more. Outside our own individual bodies, water is vital in regulating the climate in which we live, providing the food we need to eat and by creating the oxygen we need to breathe.

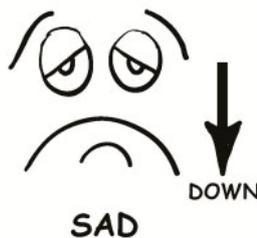
So, each and every of us need to remember that protecting the Ocean and the water it contains is vital for our own continued survival on 'Planet Earth' - or should I say 'Planet Ocean'?

HOW TO DRAW CARTOON EXPRESSIONS

If you want to animate your drawings these facial expressions will help you. It will also help to look at your own face in the mirror and watch what happens when you make the following expression:



HAPPY
The corners of your mouth, your eyelids and your eyebrows go UP. Your eyes are WIDE OPEN.



SAD
The corners of your mouth, your eyelids and your eyebrows go DOWN



SURPRISED
Your mouth and your eyes are WIDE OPEN - so that you can see your tongue. Your eyebrows are UP.



ANGRY
Your mouth is OPEN (but not in a good way!) so that we can see your teeth. Your eyebrows dip in the middle, like the wings of a bird.

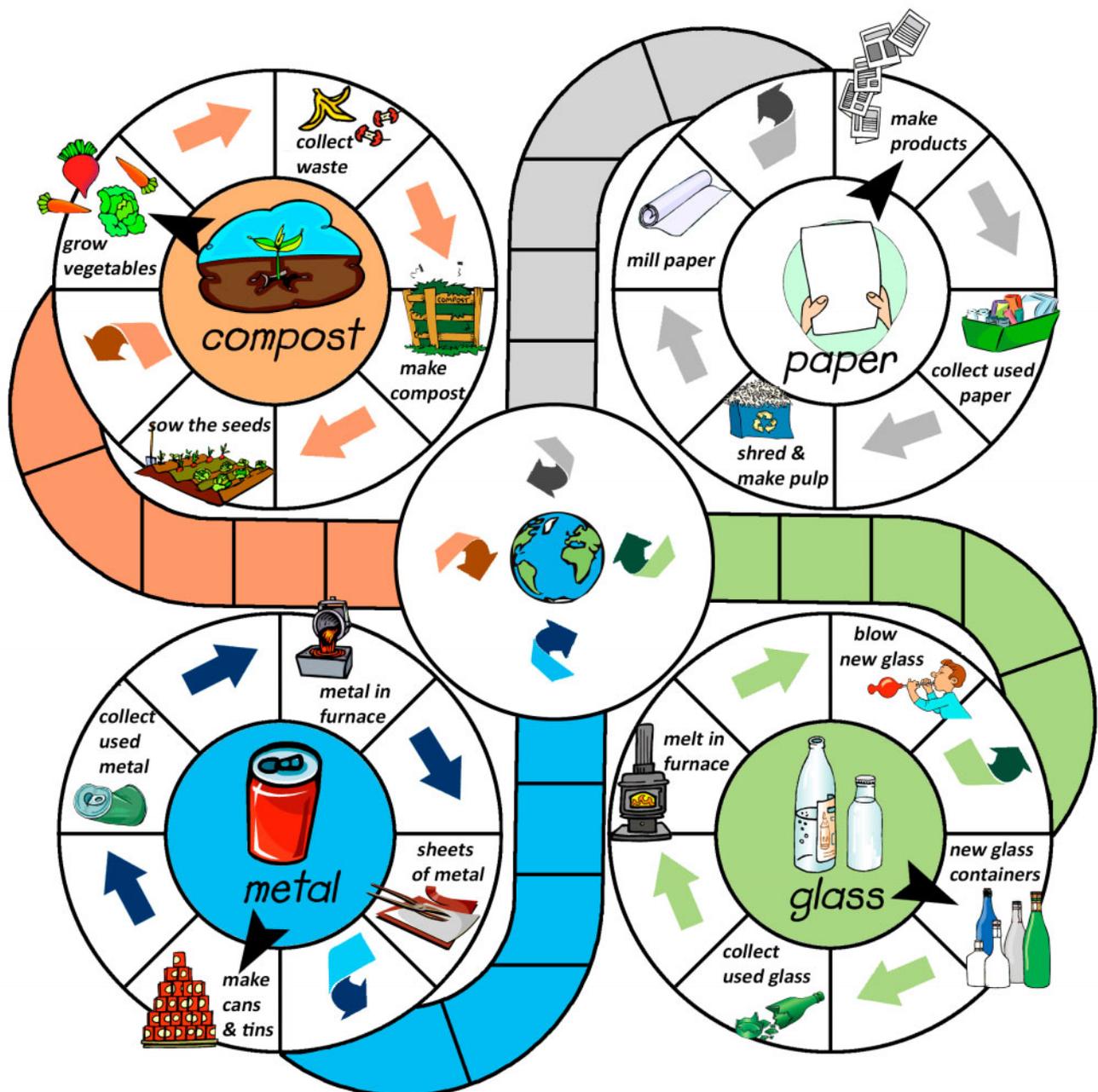
Follow 'Black John the Bogus Pirate' on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BlackJohntheBogusPirate/>

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Boardgame

What on Earth?

This is a game for 2-4 players. Each player choose a circle in which to begin and places a markers inside their circle. Everyone in turn throws the dice and following the arrows, moves the required number of places. When a player leaves their circle they must move on to the next circle until they have been through all four circles. The first to arrive on the "globe" having completed the four recycling options is considered the champion recycler!



On the Heritage Trail



All in a Day's Work

Conor Nelligan – Heritage Officer, County of Cork

Is mise Conor Nelligan and I have the honour of working for culture and heritage within the County of Cork in my role as Heritage Officer, Commemorations and Creative Ireland Coordinator for Cork County Council.

<https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/arts-heritage/heritage>



Conor Nelligan

Images courtesy of Heritage Unit, Cork County Council



What inspires you to do your job?

Cork is a magical County with such a rich history and a vibrant culture, full of people, young and old, that truly love where they live and the wonderful heritage that surrounds and connects us all.

Where do you work ?

I work in the County Hall, which is Ireland's third tallest building at 67 m in height, just behind The Elysian in Cork City (71 m) and the Capital Dock in Dublin (79 m). Cork County Council is a big organisation with over 2,000 workers; this means that I am lucky to have so many friends at work and we all share the love of working to make the County of Cork the best County there is.

Do you work as part of a team and what does this work involve?

My focus is on culture and heritage and I work with over two hundred different groups around the County on a range of different projects, events and initiatives including commemorations where we remember together the events and people that made us who we are today.

What training did you do for your job?

Since I was a garsún (a young boy) I have always had an interest in Irish heritage and culture and in college I studied a range of different disciplines from geography and sociology to planning, Irish and field Ecology. For many years I worked as a planner, assisting in the development of towns, villages and rural areas, and for the past 8 years I have had the role of Heritage Officer. It is a fascinating job to have and covers everything from castles and ringforts to woodlands, folklore and our Gaeltachts.

What do you do every day?

No one day is the same and every day I give the job my all, which involves meeting with community groups from all over the County and undertaking some fascinating projects from heritage books and guidelines to working on national events such as Tree Week, Heritage Week and the annual day of culture and creativity for young people – Cruinniú na nÓg.

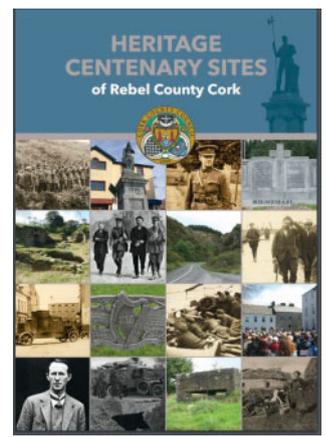
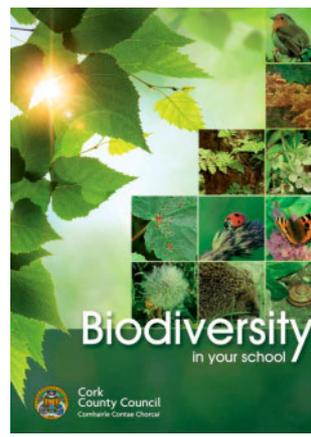
What do you enjoy most about your job?

Working with people who take pride in who they are and where they are from is most rewarding.

What advice would you give someone thinking of their future?

Life is there to enjoy and we all have something to give – you are never too young to imagine who you can be.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Dunmanus Castle in West Cork; St Fachtna's Church of Ireland Cathedral in Rosscarbery; Commemorating 1916 in Castlelyons; President Michael D. Higgins and the heritage of the Múscraí Gaeltacht; "Heritage Centenary Sites of Rebel County Cork" is one of many publications produced by the Heritage Unit; Encouraging biodiversity in schools; Supporting gardening in schools.



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Sea Cucumber



Image courtesy of Paul Kou/Sherkin Island Marine Station

Sea cucumbers are marine animals.

English Name: Sea Cucumber
Scientific Name: Holothuroidea
Irish Name: Súmaire cladaigh

Despite their name, Sea Cucumbers are not vegetable. They are, in fact, marine animals that live on the seabed. Typically they have long, sausage-like bodies, but there are exceptions. Their length ranges from about 2.5 cm to 1 m, depending on which species, and there are over 1,000 species around the world.

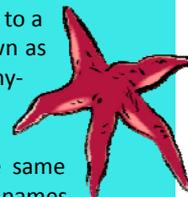
The Sea Cucumber has a leathery skin and like the starfish, has tentacles, a mouth and anus. Around its mouth are bush-like feeding tentacles, which it uses to filter water.

It uses tentacles called tube feet, adapted with sucker-pads, to move around on the seafloor.

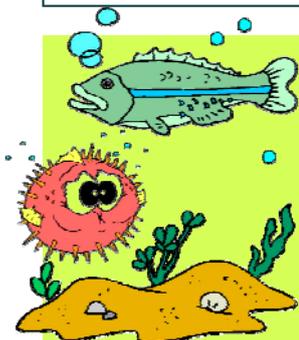
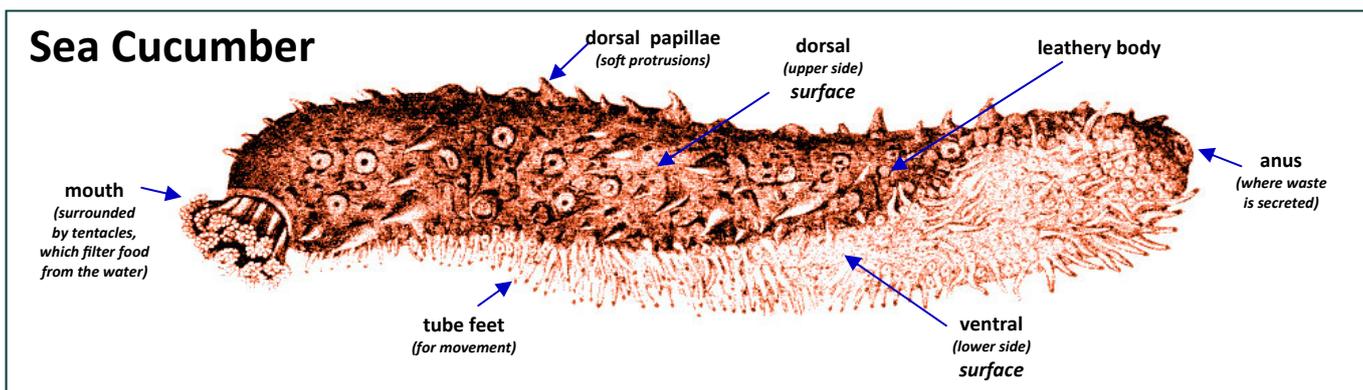
Sea cucumbers have many predators, including crabs, fish, sea turtles and humans. To defend themselves from predators, some sea cucumbers discharge sticky threads through the anus. These very long threads can entangle and disable a predator and allow the sea cucumber escape.

Family Characteristics

Sea cucumbers belong to a group of animals known as **echinoderms** — spiny-skinned animals. Starfish and sea urchins belong to the same family. As their names suggests, echinoderms all have spiny skins, although in some the spines are quite soft and not very obvious. Echinoderms have an internal skeleton of calcium carbonate plates just beneath the skin but these plates are much smaller in the sea cucumber, so it less rigid.



Echinoderms also share another feature. They have bodies which are divided into five segments. If you look at a starfish you will see the arms radiating out from a central point. From the outside, these segments are not obvious in sea cucumber, however inside its internal organs are arranged in sets of five.



Sea Cucumber Poop!

Sea Cucumbers are a little like the earthworms of the sea. Sea cucumbers are good cleaners of the sea floor, consuming decomposing matter from the surface of the seabed and surrounding waters and then secreting lots of “clean” sandy beads.

Food for Thought!

Sea Cucumbers are eaten as a delicacy in many cultures in East and Southeast Asia. They are eaten fresh but are most often dried and then rehydrated when needed for recipes. It is said they are high in nutrients but that they have very little taste. Because the sea cucumbers are in high demand and people will pay a lot of money for them, some divers will even risk their lives to collect them. Given that sea cucumbers are so good at cleaning the seabed, there is concern about their populations and it is feared they are being overharvested.





English Name: Cucumber

Scientific Name: *Cucumis sativus*

Irish Name: Cúcamar

The cucumber is approximately 95% water. We refer to it as a vegetable but it is in fact a fruit, just like the tomato. The cucumber belongs to the same family as squashes, gourds and melon. Cucumbers are the fruits that are produced on a yellow flowering plant. The plant itself, which begins as a large seed, grows on a creeping vine that produces tendrils to attach itself as it grows. It has large leaves that provide cover for the fruit, which are long and cylindrical in shape and tapered at the ends. The cucumber is green and the one we are familiar with in the supermarket is about 35 cm long.

Generally cucumbers are grown in greenhouses and these varieties usually self-pollinate. In more southerly areas, where the weather is warmer, they can be grown outside. The outdoor varieties need pollinating, which is helped along by bees.

They need fertile ground in which to grow, plenty of water and feed regularly. Seeds are planted from mid-February to mid-March and are harvested from July to October.

Cucumbers appear to have been cultivated since ancient times, with many references to them in old books.

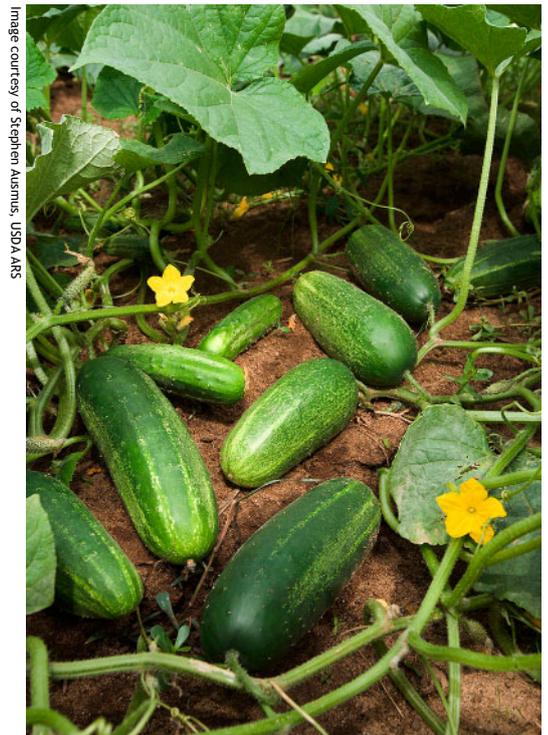


Image courtesy of Stephen Ausmus, USDA ARS

Cucumbers growing on the vine.

A Refreshing Food

Cucumbers are mainly eaten in salads and other refreshing dishes, mixed with yoghurt to accompany curries, they are also cut up and pickled in vinegar. Really small cucumbers are called gherkins and these are called cornichons and you'll find them in jar in the supermarket.



Recipe for RAITIA FRESH CHUTNEY

Ingredients

- 250ml/8fl oz natural yoghurt
- ½ cucumber, grated or finely chopped
- a handful of chopped mint leaves
- a pinch of salt

1. Squeeze the cucumber in a clean tea towel to remove excess water.
2. Mix all ingredients together and serve as a dip with poppadums or curry.



Cucumbers are a refreshing snack and are a source of Vitamin K.

Beautiful Cucumbers

Cucumbers are said to have anti-inflammatory properties and slices placed on the eyes are believed to reduce puffiness.



Desmond Castle

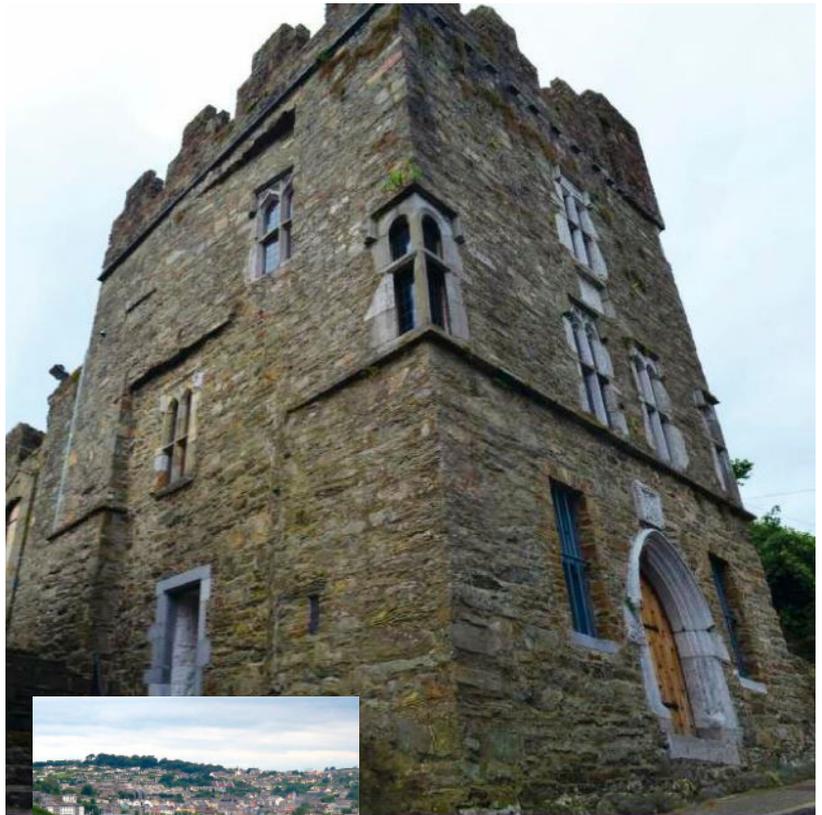
Desmond Castle in Kinsale, Co Cork, is one of around forty surviving 'urban tower houses' in Ireland. Urban tower houses are found in several medieval towns and were the homes of either wealthy merchants of the town or rural gentry investing in urban property. In some, the ground floors would have been shops or warehouses, with residential accommodation overhead.

The medieval town of Kinsale, in County Cork, was an important trading port since the 13th century. By the 15th century, it was under the control of the most powerful Anglo-Norman lords in Munster, the FitzGerald Earls of Desmond. The castle was built as a town residence by a branch of that family .

In 1600 and 1601, it was used as a magazine for storing weapons and gunpowder during the Spanish occupation of the town which lasted for 100 days prior to the Battle of Kinsale in 1601. Later, and for many years, it served as a prison down to the mid-nineteenth century.

The castle is located on rising ground overlooking the main part of the historic town, where its occupants could observe the marketplace—the centre of activity in this port town.

Desmond castle has been extensively renovated in recent years and is a very popular tourist attraction in Kinsale.



Above: Desmond Castle, Kinsale, Co. Cork, is an urban tower house.



Left: The medieval town of Kinsale.

Courtesy of Clme2 (CC BY-SA 3.0) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kinsale#/media/File:Kinsale-harbour2.jpg>

Life in Medieval Ireland

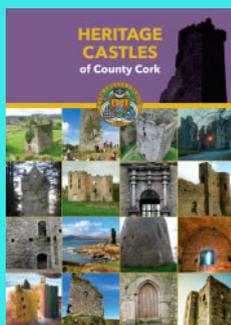
Castles were such a significant part of medieval society. An understanding of castles is crucial to a fuller understanding of life as lived in Medieval Ireland. They are not the full story of course, and far more medieval people lived outside of castles than in them. Nevertheless the castles, and the people who occupied them, dominated the lives of medieval people in much the same way Government dominates our lives today through parliament, courts, prisons and legislation governing almost every aspect of our lives. These functions of modern Government operated in medieval times though the castles.



Illustration by Rhoda Cronin

How a typical tower house would have looked c. 1500.

Text and images courtesy of "Heritage Castles of County Cork"



Heritage Castles of County Cork

On page 7 of this issue of Nature's Web, Conor Nelligan tells us about his work with the Heritage Unit of Cork County Council. One of the books produced by the unit is "Heritage Castles of County Cork", which looks at the Castles, Tower Houses and Fortified Houses of the County, many of which still stand proud today. The book tells the stories of the County's Castles and those of the family names that are connected with these structures. It also informs us to what life was like in the County during Medieval Times, both within and outside Castle walls. The book can be purchased in bookshops around the County or downloaded in PDF format from:

<https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/arts-heritage/publications-documents-links>

Activity



Shadow Puppets

Create your own puppet theatre and make a shadow box with paper puppets. You can print marine life outlines on page 17 and create a storyline around them. Alternatively, you could draw your own characters for different storyline.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Printed sheet of animals (see p17) preferably on card
- Scissors
- Lollipop sticks
- Tape
- A large cardboard box
- A4 sheet of white paper
- Lamp or Torch



1. Print out the marine animals on page 17.



2. Or replace the above images with your own.



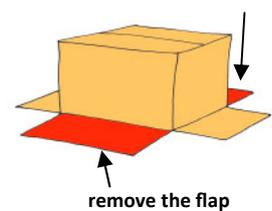
3. Tape three lollipop sticks together.



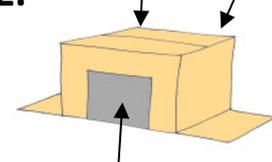
4. Tape a long stick to the back of each image.

MAKING THE SHADOW BOX

1. remove the flap

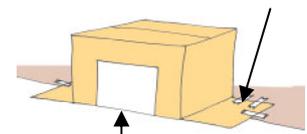


2. reinforce tape if necessary remove the back wall of the box



trace the outline of the A4 sheet of paper on the box cut the opening about 1 cm smaller than the outline

3. place the box half way over the edge of a table and tape the flaps in place



tape the paper to the inside of the opening

4. shine a lamp or torch through the back of the box



with the audience sitting in front of you, sit on the floor and move the puppets inside the box

TIP: It helps to have the show in a darkened room.



The World Around Us



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

A Happy Ending to a Dog's Tale

In early April, Irish Rail had an unexpected passenger on their 08:46am train from Sallins, Co Kildare, to Heuston Station in Dublin. An unaccompanied terrier pup boarded the train to make the 30 minute journey to the city. On being discovered, it was taken care of by Ted Maher, an employee of Irish Rail, who looked after it until its owners were tracked down.



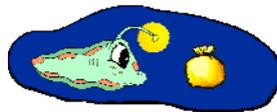
The dog was temporarily named 'Hamish' but it was discovered to be 'Tyson', when its owners were eventually found following a social media appeal. Before they could claim the dog, they provided photographic evidence to prove they were the owners. Ted Maher is a volunteer at the "My Lovely Horse" animal rescue centre and before Tyson was returned to its owners, the centre microchipped the dog so that if he went missing again, he could be traced. A happy ending for a daring traveller.

Stunning Aerial Footage from WhaleTrack Ireland

The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group (IWDG) recently began an exciting new project called WhaleTrack Ireland. Their aim is to find out what large baleen whales are doing in Irish waters, where are they coming from and going to. On Saturday 20th April 2019, WhaleTrack Ireland went in search of humpback whales from Reen Pier near Union Hall, West Cork. On board a Cork Whale Watch boat, they headed out to where they had heard whales had been seen in the area that week. Though there was a thick haze on the sea, they collected the first set of aerial images and video of up to six humpback whales feeding and socialising, as well as common dolphins bow riding the whales. The IWDG encourages help from the general public, so if you see any sightings of whales, please let them know www.iwdg.ie



Plastic in the Remotest Part of the World



The Mariana Trench, in the Pacific Ocean, is the deepest place on Earth and plastic has even made its way to the bottom of it.

A retired naval officer, Victor Vescovo, who recently made the deepest manned dive ever—descending to nearly 11km—spent four hours surveying the bottom of the trench. As well as sea creatures, sadly he also discovered a plastic bag and sweet wrappers! Further proof that controlling plastic litter is vital to a healthy planet!



... and Speaking of Whales

Palaeontologists (people who study fossils) have found the fossil of a 43 million year old whale in Peru. Along with a four metre body and a powerful tail, the whale also had four limbs which could have been able to carry its weight. They believe that it was adapted to swim and to walk on land.

Four-legged whale fossils have been found before, but this is the largest to be found outside of India and Pakistan. It is believed the first whales evolved in South Asia around 50 million years ago.

Bees Survive the Fire at Notre Dame

Following the dreadful fire that destroyed most of the roof on Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, people were surprised to learn that the bees in nearby beehives on the cathedral's roof, did not abandon their hives and survived, despite being covered in smoke from the fire. There have been bee hives on the cathedral since 2013, due to efforts to increase bee populations in the city. Beekeepers often use smoke to calm the bees and the cathedral's beekeeper think the smoke from the fire made them 'drunk' on honey and put them to sleep.



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 In the garden, do cucumbers grow on bushes or vines?
- 2 In which County Cork medieval town will you find Desmond Castle?
- 3 Name one animal in the main shadow box image.
- 4 What substance is Black John reminding us that we cannot live without?
- 5 Who is the Heritage Officer for Cork County?
- 6 What fish is featured in the Bord Bia recipe?
- 7 At what stage of life is the dragonfly called a nymph—egg, larvae or adult?
- 8 Which town is nearest to Sherkin Island?
- 9 The Sea Cucumber is a plant. True or false?
- 10 In the game "What on Earth?", what is the next step after "make compost"?
- 11 Who is standing next to Conor Nelligan at a heritage event for Muscraí Gaeltacht?
- 12 From which year to which year will the Dragon Ireland survey run?
- 13 A garden cucumber is made up of approximately how much water?
- 14 A Sea Cucumber is related to which five-armed marine animal?

Answers Above: (1) On vines; (2) Kinsale; (3) Octopus or shark; (4) Water; (5) Conor Nelligan; (6) Smoked salmon; (7) Larvae; (8) Skibbereen; (9) False, it is a marine animal; (10) Sow the seeds; (11) President Michael D. Higgins; (12) 2019-2024; (13) Approximately 95%; (14) The starfish.

Nature Jokes

Why did the baby elephant need a new suitcase for her holidays?
She only had a little trunk.



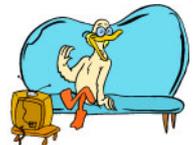
Why did the cucumber make an emergency call?
It was in a pickle.

What insect do knights hate?
Dragonflies



What would bears be without bees?
Ears.

What do ducks watch on TV?
Duckumentaries.



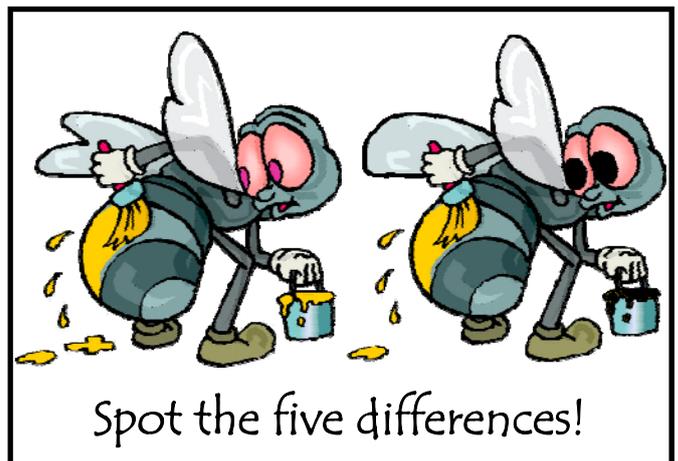
Where do sharks go for their summer holidays?
Finland.

Why are mice not good dancers?
They have two left feet.



Think of a Title

Have fun with your friends making up a title for this photo of a Western Desert Tarantula, Tucson, Arizona, USA.



Spot the five differences!

Image courtesy of Alan D Wilson www.naturespicsonline.com

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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

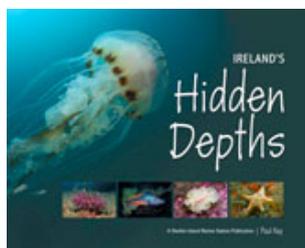
Flowers With the help of this pocket-sized guide, beginners of all ages will be introduced to the many common wild flowers found around Ireland. 206pp

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"

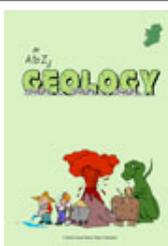
Produced by Sherkin Island Marine Station, the DVD 'On the Water's Edge', features a short film on life beside the sea.

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:

'Dear Old Skibbereen: <https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/visiting-cork/cork-county-historic-town-maps>
<https://purecork.ie/plan-your-trip/tips-info/download-a-map-of-cork> www.skibbereen.ie

Dragonflies & Damselflies: <http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/record-biodiversity/dragonfly-ireland-2019-2024/>
<https://british-dragonflies.org.uk/odonata/species-and-identification/>

Black John—the Bogus Pirate: <https://www.facebook.com/BlackJohntheBogusPirate/>
<https://www.marine.ie/Home/site-area/areas-activity/education-outreach/education-outreach>

What on Earth?: <https://stopfoodwaste.ie/resources/composting/> <https://repak.ie/>

Heritage Unit, County of Cork: <https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/arts-heritage>

Sea Cucumber: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/invertebrates/group/sea-cucumbers/>
<https://www.marlin.ac.uk/species/rank/1806/Echinodermata>

The Garden Cucumber: <https://www.quickcrop.ie/learning/plant/cucumber>
<https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/grow-your-own/vegetables/cucumbers>

Desmond Castle: <http://www.heritageireland.ie/en/south-west/desmondcastle/>

A Happy Ending to a Dog's Tale: <https://www.rte.ie/news/ireland/2019/0404/1040665-hamish-appeal/>

Plastic in the Remotest Part of the World: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-48230157>
<https://www.theoceancleanup.com/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>

Stunning Aerial Footage from WhaleTrack Ireland: <http://iwdg.ie/whaletrack/>

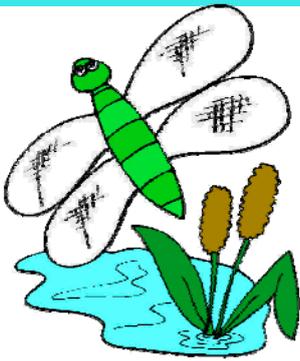
...and Speaking of Whales:

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/news/2019/april/ancient-four-legged-whale-with-webbed-feet-and-hooves-uncovered-in-Peru.html>

Bees Survive the Fire at Notre Dame: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/honey-bees-notre-dames-roof-survived-fire-180972010/>

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 2019 Wordsearch

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

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

- Bees
- Conor Nelligan
- Cucumber
- Damselfly
- Desmond Castle
- Dragonfly
- Heritage Officer
- Mariana Trench
- Notre Dame
- Planet Ocean
- Plastic
- Sea Cucumber
- Shadow Puppets
- Skibbereen
- Tyson
- Whale fossil
- WhaleTrack Ireland
- What on Earth



(Over, Down, Direction): Bee (7,9,E); Conor Nelligan (9,15,N); Cucumber (1,13,N); Damselfly (14,10,S); Desmond Castle (13,14,W); Dragonfly (6,18,E); Heritage Officer (12,1,S); Mariana Trench (4,3,E); Notre Dame (4,10,N); Planet Ocean (8,17,N); Plastic (6,8,S); Sea Cucumber (5,16,N); Shadow Puppets (11,14,N); Skibbereen (16,6,S); Tyson (14,4,SE); Whale Fossil (10,1,S); WhaleTrack Ireland (1,15,E); What on Earth (3,17,N).

Nature's Noticeboard!

Summer 2019

Challenge yourself to play an outdoor game every day this summer, such as hopscotch, skipping, hula hoop, tag are just a few.

How many things can you find that are made of plastic? What materials could be used instead to make these items?

Make bark rubbings of different tree trunks and compare each tree.

Identify two wildflowers in your garden or park this summer. When is its flower season and in what conditions does it like to grow?

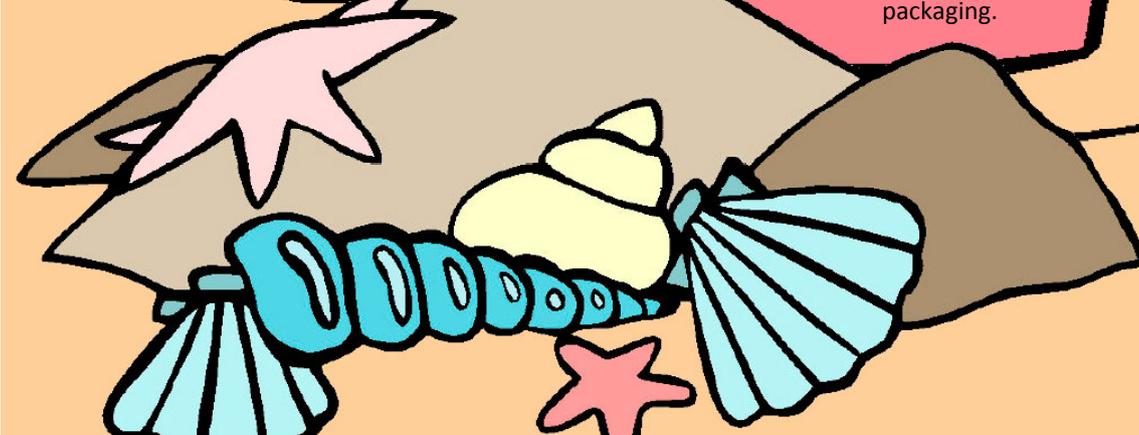
Use reusable cutlery, plates and cups when you go on picnics this summer.

Research whether or not there is a castle, tower house or fortified house near you.

Save the energy it would take to make new things by looking after and repairing the things you already have.

Buy concentrated products, such as fruit cordials and washing liquid, as you get more product with less packaging.

Visit www.iws.ie and find out how to be safe in the sea this summer.



Sherkin Island Marine Station would like to thank the following for their help with this newsletter, especially Bord Bia, John Joyce, Michael Ludwig, Eimear Murphy, Robbie Murphy, Conor Nelligan, Jez Wickens and Alan D. Wilson.

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



We appreciate support from the EPA toward the newsletter.

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*Templates for the
Shadow Puppets*



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