



Cornish Seal Sanctuary



Wonderful Wildlife

Student Workbook

Created by the Cornish Seal Sanctuary – SEA LIFE Trust

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Introduction

The Cornish Seal Sanctuary is a charity that rescues and rehabilitates seal pups from around the Cornish Coastline.

Did you know that we've been rescuing sick and injured pups since 1958?! The Sanctuary started in the winter of 1958 when a baby seal, only a few hours old, was washed up on the beach at St Agnes. Ken Jones lived with his wife Mary next to the beach, he picked up the pup and took it back to his small garden.

For many years, he ran a rescue centre for seals, with just one pool, at St Agnes. The news of his work with seals spread, and he received more and more calls about injured seals. Ken realised he needed more room, as the single pool at St Agnes was just not big enough. Ken had to find a larger site to build a permanent rescue centre and was offered land by the beautiful Helford River in Gweek.

Each season, the Sanctuary rehabilitates between 50 to 70 seal pups each costing on average £2,000 to be rehabilitated. The Sanctuary also provides a permanent home to animals that need special care from their team of marine animal experts.

When visiting the Sanctuary, you can experience wonderful marine animals up close and personal and learn all about their individual stories. There's plenty to learn too! We offer guided tours, school workshops and school holiday clubs. Plus, you can head over to Discovery Cove, mixing learning with play; you can enjoy a variety of activities which are both fun and educational.

Hi! My name's Lily!

**I am the learning buddy for the
Cornish Seal Sanctuary.**

**If you see me in your workbook, I
might have a handy hint for you!**



The World Outside Your Window

We're all having to spend a lot more time inside at the moment, but there are still plenty of ways you can discover the amazing natural world right on your own doorstep!

Take five minutes in your garden or watching from your window and note down what natural things you can see. These could be plants, animals, or insects.

What
can I
see?

At the Cornish Seal Sanctuary we have over 40 acres of land for our resident animals but we also have plenty of space for wild animals to make a home for themselves.



Beautiful Birds

The Cornish Seal Sanctuary sits alongside the Helford estuary, so we often see lots of different birds when walking down to meet our otters at Otter Creek.

These are some of the birds you might spot. Can you match the picture to the correct name?



Swan



Egret



Kingfisher



Buzzard



Cormorant



Kestrel



Heron

Time for some research!

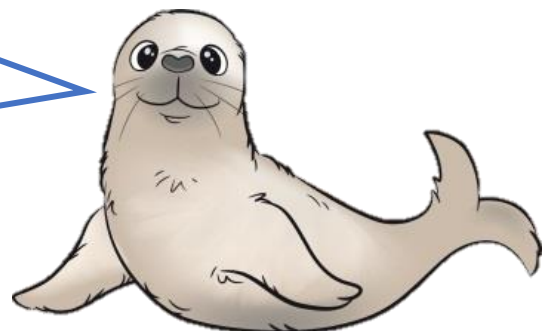
We've learnt about some of the birds you can spot whilst walking around the Cornish Seal Sanctuary – but what about the birds near you?

Spend some time watching your garden or take this workbook with you on a short walk, note down or sketch the birds that you see.

See if you can identify what you've seen by searching the internet or asking a family member for any bird books!



You can see Buzzards all over the UK – look for light patches on the underside of their wings and a fan shaped tail!



My Bird Watch Diary

Description/Sketch:

Where and when did you see this bird?

.....
.....

Can you find its name?

Description/Sketch:

Where and when did you see this bird?

.....
.....

Can you find its name?

Description/Sketch:

Where and when did you see this bird?

.....
.....

Can you find its name?

Description/Sketch:

Where and when did you see this bird?

.....
.....

Can you find its name?

Creepy Crawlies

As well as birds, we often find lots of bugs and insects at the Cornish Seal Sanctuary. We have lots of nature walks which are great for spotting some of the UK's smaller creatures.

On sunny days you can see lots of butterflies and bees around the sanctuary; take a closer look in the wooded areas and you could spot spiders, woodlice, and beetles.

Can you fill in the Venn diagram on the next page to work out the differences between butterflies and moths? Lily is here to tell you the facts, can you help her sort them?

Brightly coloured wings

Rests with wings open

Have 6 legs

Are insects

Rest with wings closed

Antennae are long and smooth

The caterpillar makes a cocoon

The caterpillar makes a chrysalis

Mostly seen during the day

Wings are usually duller

Antennae are short and feathery

Mostly seen at night

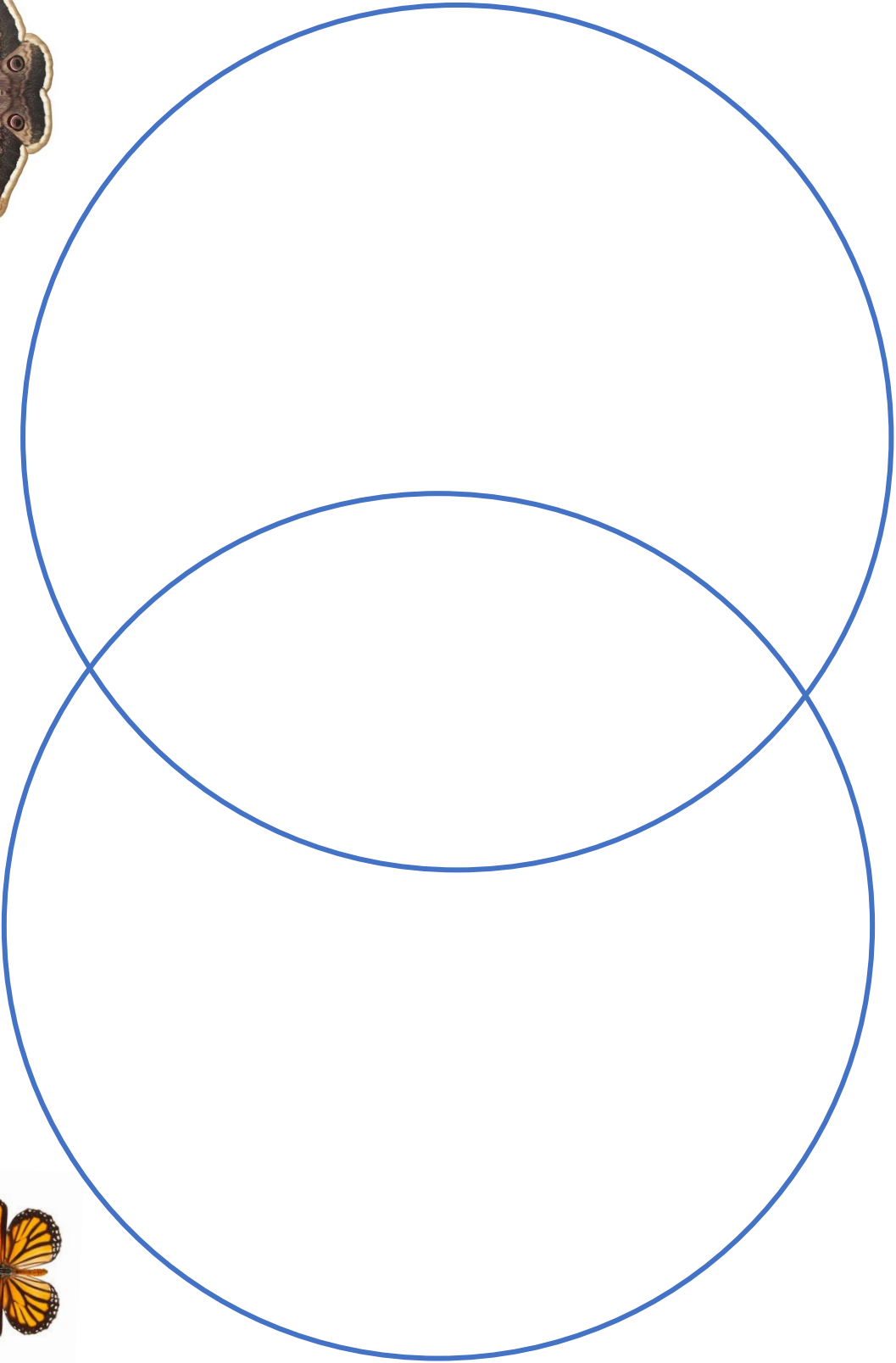
Can hear

Cannot hear





Moths



Butterflies



Cress Heads

Feeling crafty? Cress heads are easy to make and tasty too!

What you will need:

- an egg or yoghurt pot
- pens and paints for decoration
- cress seeds
- cotton wool
- water



Steps:

- 1) If you are using an egg, carefully take the top off and empty it out (save the tasty part for later!) and wash it off. If you're using a pot, make sure it's clean.
- 2) Decorate the shells or pot however you like!
- 3) Dip a small amount of cotton wool in water and squeeze it gently (we don't want it to be too wet). Place it at the bottom of your decorated container.
- 4) Spread some cress seeds evenly across the cotton wool.
- 5) Leave your cress head in warm, sunlit spot and watch it grow day by day!
- 6) When your cress has grown, cut it into creative hair styles – you can put what you've cut off on your sandwiches!

Learn More at The Cornish Seal Sanctuary



There's plenty more to explore. Combining active learning with fascinating talks and an opportunity to have a close encounter with a variety of animals.

Want to learn more? Calling All Ocean Lovers!

Take part in jam packed sessions during School Holidays and discover all about:

- Seals and Sea Lions and the environment they live in
- Seal pup rescue, rehabilitation and release
- Our resident animals and how we care for them
- Local wildlife
- Marine conservation

Support the Sanctuary

Enjoyed learning with The Cornish Seal Sanctuary?

Did you know that we're a charity?

Every year, we rescue seal pups in need of care from around the coastline. Each pup costs on average £2,000 to rehabilitate and that doesn't include those that need specific operations. We also care for lots of animals who can't be released.



We are grateful for any donation received. Your money could go a long way to helping our animals get the care they really need.

To help text SEAL 5 to 70085 to make a £5 donation.
Or donate on our website: sealsanctuary.sealifetrust.org

Thank you for your support, we would not be able to do this vital work without you!

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