

# Glenveagh Nature Education Programme

## MODULE FACT SHEET FOR TEACHERS

# Mammal Day

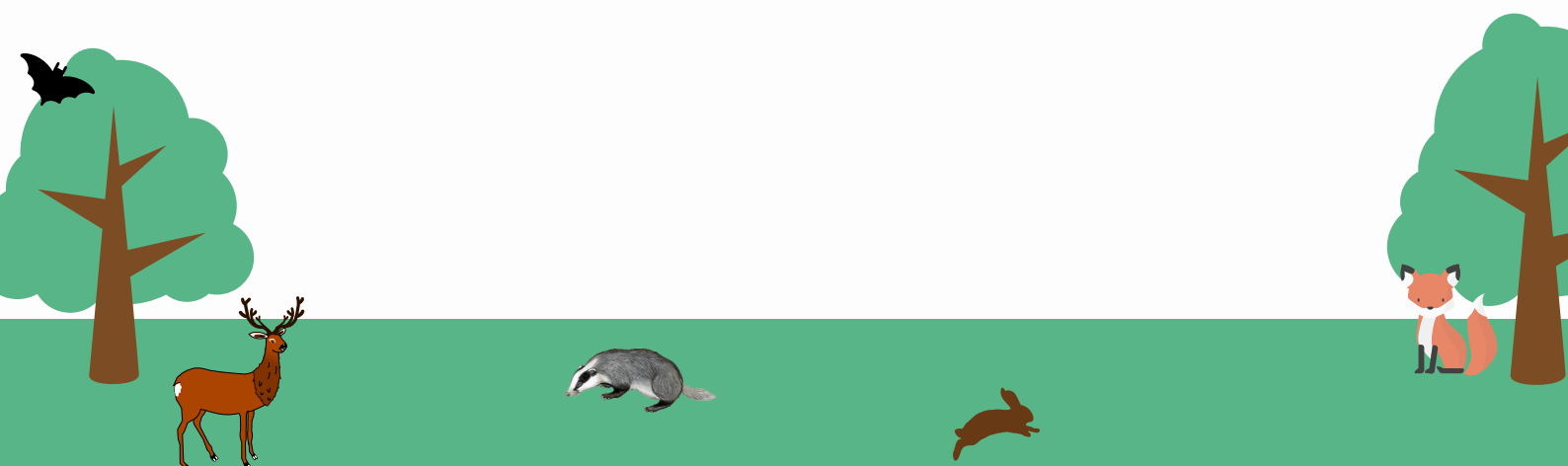
### WHO IS THIS MODULE IDEAL FOR?

- Your class group are 1st to 6th Class
- Your class have already completed the Nature Explorer module with us and have been to Glenveagh before.
- You would like a theme that can be explored further at school or home.
- You are choosing mammals as a topic to study as part of the 'Living Things' strand of the curriculum.

Note: These are recommendations only - modules are open to all groups.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Introduce your students to what mammals are, those found in Glenveagh and a series of activities (indoor and outdoor).
- A supervised encounter with a small woodland mammal through our trapping and surveying project ( cannot be guaranteed but we endeavour to provide it!)
- Find animal tracks and identify them
- Using keys and charts to identify mammals based on their characteristics.
- Learn about how we support native mammals in the National Park, how their food chains work and how and why we protect them.
- Opportunity to create a memento of their day, through an arts and crafts activity!



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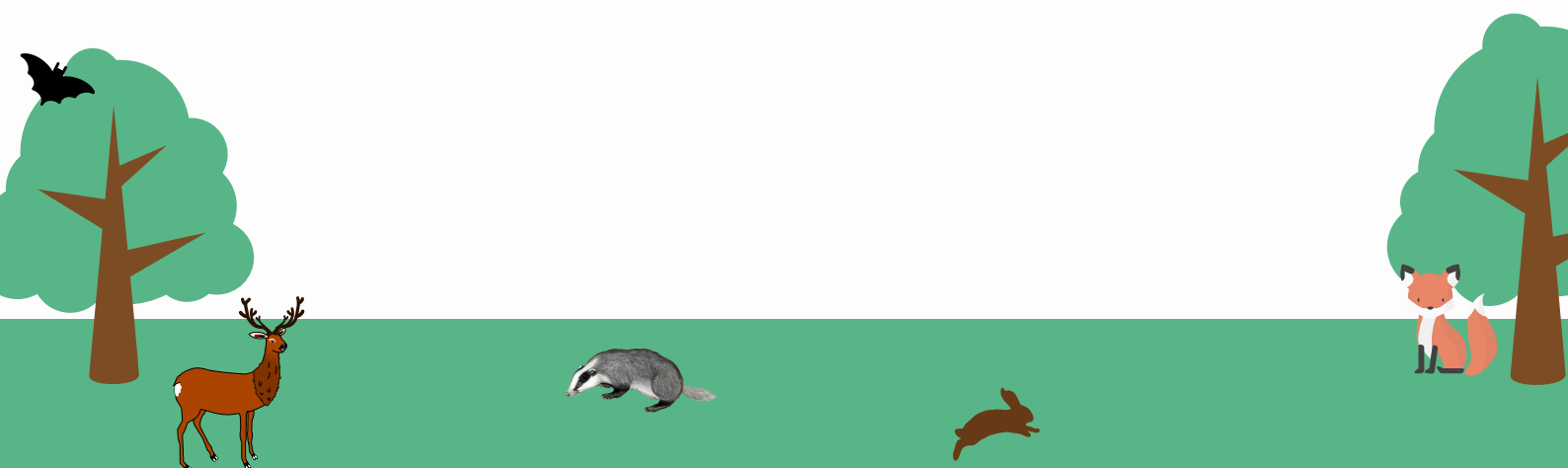
# Mammal Day

### HOW THE EDUCATION TEAM WILL DELIVER THIS PROGRAMME AND WHAT STUDENTS WILL EXPERIENCE:

- Guides will take you all on a nature trail exploration looking for tracks and signs of our mammals found in the National Park.
- Get first hand experience of using keys and charts to do some mammal identification.
- We will check small mammal traps (set the night before) to see if we can find who lives in the park
- Art activities to reflect on learning, including writing drawing and painting into hand-made mammal booklets.
- Using the library to find facts and pictures about mammals and visiting our stuffed animals to see mammals such as foxes and otters that are a little more elusive to find in the wild.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO BEFORE YOUR VISIT TO GLENVEAGH?

- Begin to discover the world of mammals, what they are, the different types, sizes and where they live around the world.
- Research Irish Mammals.
- Get your class to think about the types of habitats you have near school and what mammals might choose to live there
- Discover what food different mammals eat. How do they survive in the winter and/or how does their behaviour change?



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### **SUGGESTED FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES TO DO AFTER YOUR VISIT:**

- Do a class project on one of the mammals you learned about during the visit.
- Build a mammal book (maybe you would have started it with us during your visit) and get your students to do further writing and drawing in them. Younger students could cut out and stick in pictures of mammals
- Older students could contribute to Biodiversity Ireland's 'Record Biodiversity' programme by inputting any wild mammals they see which helps to build a map of all the mammals in Ireland.
- Explore the history of mammals in Ireland. Discuss extinction, what this means and what can cause it. Discover some of the Irish Mammals that used to live here.

### **USEFUL LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

- <https://www.vincentwildlife.ie/species>
- <https://irelandswildlife.com/category/species-profiles/ireland-mammals/>
- <http://www.noticenature.ie/Mammals.html>
- <https://iwt.ie/species-list/>

