

This activity is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use.

Preparation time: 10 mins Suggested activity time: 20 mins

This is an activity that encourages children to think about what different animals do to cope in cold winter months and why. Do they migrate to warmer areas? Do they hibernate? Do they stay in the same country and look for food?

You will need:

- Four pieces of card. One piece of card should have '**Hibernate**' written on it, one with '**Go/Migrate south**', one with '**Stay put**' and the last one with '**Visit**' (this card is for animals that visit in winter from countries even colder than ours! They too are migrants)
- Laminated pictures/photographs of various animals who survive in winter in different ways - these can be anything and everything from ladybirds to squirrels, from frogs to geese. If you don't know yourself how all the creatures spend the winter, then some reference books can enable you all to investigate together.

Activity

- Place the four choice cards on the ground. The children can work in small groups, pairs or individually.
- Evenly deal out the laminated images of the animals to the groups/pairs/individuals.
- The children then have to put each animal picture near the choice card which they think corresponds to what that animal does during winter.
- When they have all been allocated, the whole group can see which images were put next to which cards. This is good time for people to say why they put them where and for other children to question them. There can then be a discussion about the different methods of coping with the cold of winter.

Learning Outcomes

Place

Pupils should be enabled to explore:

- Ways in which people, plants and animals depend on the features and materials in places and how they adapt to their environment.

Language and Literacy

Talking and listening. Pupils should be enabled to:

Participate in group and class discussions for a variety of curricular purposes; know, understand and use the conventions of group discussion; share, respond to and evaluate ideas, arguments and points of view and use evidence or reason to justify opinions, actions or proposals; Formulate, give and respond to guidance, directions and instructions.

The **ParkLife** project helps local people get outdoors and explore nature in Belfast's wonderful parks



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