

Primary 5-7 Lesson



Be informed.

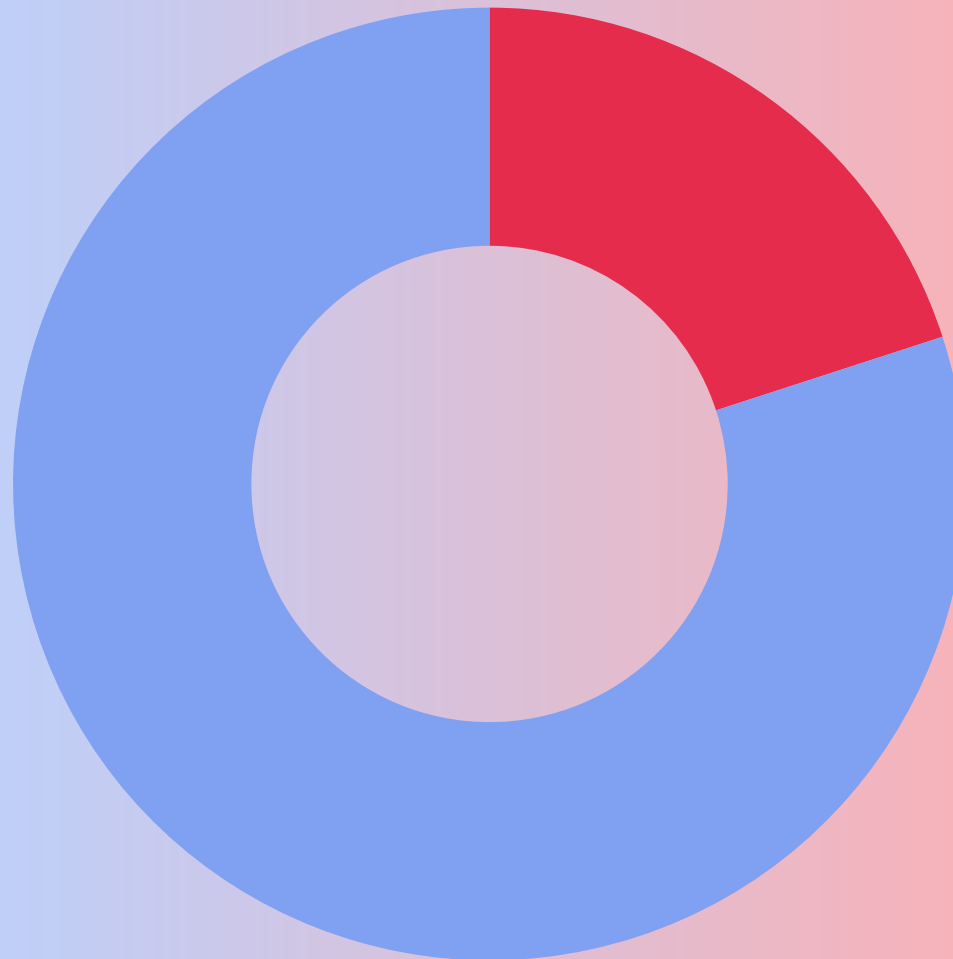


Be curious.



Be heard.

Your latest results: “Do you know what an ally is?”



Yes

80%

No

20%

42,157 young people voted this week! Were you one of them?

Today's VoteTopic:

Would you like more wildlife in your towns and cities?

UNCRC Article 24:
Health, water, food,
environment

UN SDG 15:
Life on
land

VfS Key Theme 3:
Environment &
climate change

1 What's the difference?



Pair activity (2-3 mins)
Talk to your partner and see if you can match these words to their pictures.



City



Village



Town

1 What's the difference?



Village

A **small number of houses** and **other places** (like **small shops** or a **local school**), often in the **countryside**.
Hundreds of people might live there.



Town

A **medium-sized place** with **lots of houses, shops, some workplaces, cinemas** and **restaurants**.
Thousands of people might live there.



City

A **large place** with **many houses, larger shops, many workplaces** and a **cathedral**.
Hundreds of thousands of people might live there.

2 Why are we talking about this?



This week we are working with **Eco-Schools** to celebrate **Earth Day 2024**, which is taking place on **22nd April**.



Earth Day helps us to **celebrate our planet** and **protect** all the **different living things** that call it home.

2 Why are we talking about this?



Many of us live in **towns and cities**. You might not be used to seeing **lots of different wildlife** in a **town or city**.

Individual reflection (1-2 mins)

How do you feel
when you see
wildlife, like **animals**,
birds or **insects**?



2 Why are we talking about this?



However, there are **lots of different kinds of wildlife** that **live alongside humans** in the hidden corners of **towns and cities across the UK**.



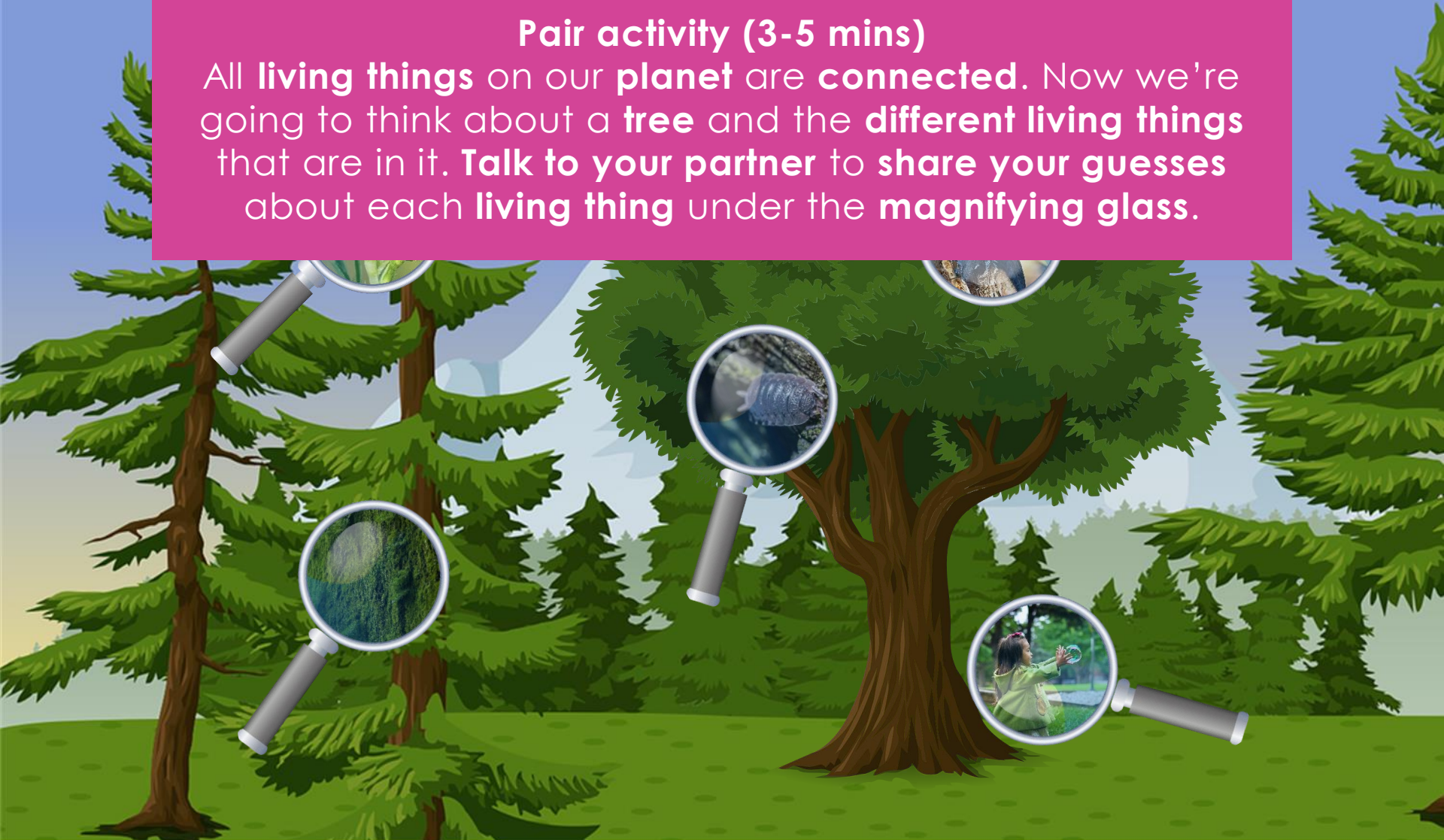
But is there enough? **Would you like to see more wildlife in your towns and cities?** Let's decide today.

3 It's wild out there...



Pair activity (3-5 mins)

All **living things** on our **planet** are **connected**. Now we're going to think about a **tree** and the **different living things** that are in it. **Talk to your partner** to **share your guesses** about each **living thing** under the **magnifying glass**.



3 It's wild out there...



What is this creature?



This is a **ladybird**. They **eat small insects** which **feed on tree leaves**. Ladybirds also **lay eggs on the leaves**.

3 It's wild out there...



This is **moss**. It is **like a sponge**. It helps to **soak up rainfall** and it is a **home for tiny insects**.

What could this green stuff be?



3 It's wild out there...



Have you ever seen
(or heard) a bird like this?



This is a **woodpecker**. They **eat insects** including ladybirds and woodlice. You might have **heard one tapping on wood** before!

3 It's wild out there...



This is a **woodlouse**. It **eats dead leaves**.
This helps to **create fresh soil** which **helps the tree grow**.



What is the name of
this insect?

3 It's wild out there...



This is a **human**. **Humans** use **trees** for **shelter and shade**. They also use the **wood** to make **timber, paper** and **cardboard**.



What can we see here?



Whole class activity (4-6 mins)

Now you will hear some **information about wildlife in the UK**. If you think the information is **true**, **buzz like a bee**. If you think the information is **false**, **squeak like a mouse**.





Buzz for true,
squeak for false!

Buzz!

Squeak!

The UK has more than 70,000
known types of wildlife.

This is true!
This includes **animals**,
plants and **insects**.



Buzz for true,
squeak for false!

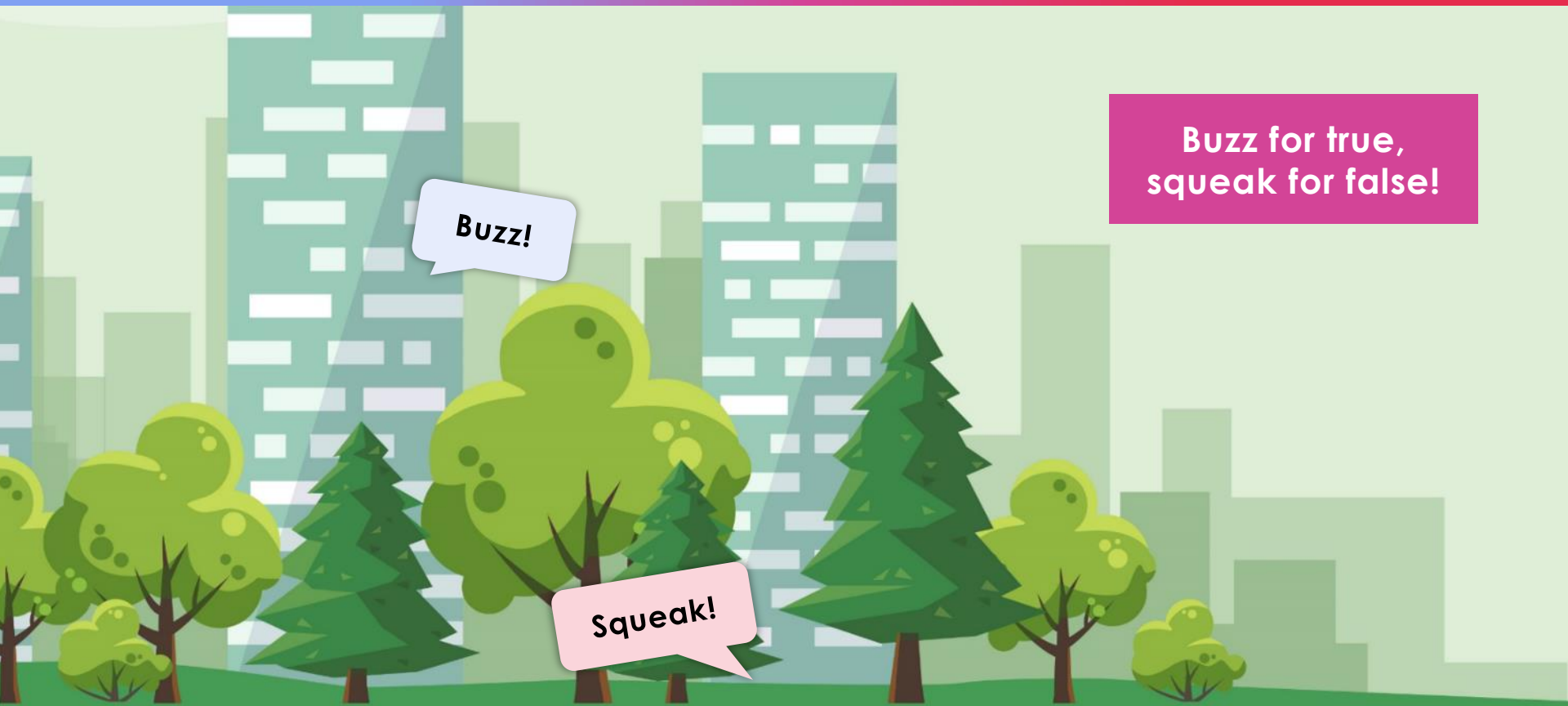
Buzz!

Squeak!

This is true!

This means **animals** and **insects** have **fewer** types of **food** to **eat**.

There are fewer different types of plants than there used to be in the UK.



Buzz for true,
squeak for false!

There are **fewer** bees, flies and
moths than there used to be.

This is false!
These **insects** do lots of
important jobs helping
plants to **grow**.



Buzz for true,
squeak for false!

Squeak!

Buzz!

This is false!
Research shows that **plants**
can help **people** feel **better** in
their **mind** and their **body**.

Lots of plants in a town or
city can make people
~~feel less~~ worried!



Buzz!

Buzz for true,
squeak for false!

Squeak!

The sound of birdsong and leaves blowing in the wind can help people feel happier.

This is true!
Research shows that the **sounds of nature** can **help people to relax.**



Whole class activity (5-8 mins)

On the next few slides, you will see some examples from **towns** and **cities all over the UK** where people are **encouraging more wildlife to live there**. Give a **thumbs up** if there is **room for this in your nearest town or city** and a **thumbs down** if you think there is **no room**.





Is there room for this in your local town or city?

Farnham Town Council has created a bug hotel which spells out the name of the town. Bug hotels can help increase the number of insects.



Mayor of Greater Manchester,
56 Oxford Street,
MANCHESTER.



Crediton, South-West England

Is there room for this in your local town or city?

Hayward Primary School in Crediton has made planters out of old shoes, which they grow flowering plants in to encourage insect life at their school.



Mayor of Leeds,
1st Floor West,
Civic Hall,
LEEDS.



CONWY, NORTH WALES

Is there room for this in your local town or city?

A business called **Incredible Edible** has a group in Conwy that has made **flower, herbs, fruit and vegetable beds** in patches all over the **town**.



Mayor of
Nottingham,
Council House,
NOTTINGHAM.



MANCHESTER
NORTH-WEST ENGLAND

Is there room for
this in your local
town or city?



An **unused railway bridge** in Manchester (Castlefield Viaduct) has been turned into a **city garden space** to **increase wildlife** in the city.



Mayor of London,
City Hall,
Kamal Chunchie Way,
LONDON.



Newcastle, North-East England



Is there room for this in your local town or city?



In **Newcastle**, there is a **living wall of plants** growing on the **side of a supermarket building** to increase **plant and insect life**.



Mayor of Exeter,
Civic Centre,
Paris Street,
EXETER.



Individual reflection (3-4 mins)

On the next slide, you will see a tally chart with some **different ways** that you can **encourage more wildlife** in **your school**. Draw this on a **whiteboard** in the classroom or **head outside** to draw it on the **playground using chalk...**



6 Reconnecting with nature



Set up a bug hotel	
Make recycled planters	
Plant fruit and vegetables	
Plant more wildflowers	
Grow a living wall	

Challenge (2 mins)

If you go outside to make your tally chart, why not use sticks to share your vote?

Now's your chance to vote on: "Would you like more wildlife in your towns and cities?"

Yes

Yes, I think more wildlife in towns and cities can make the Earth healthier.

We should be more comfortable being around wildlife.

I would enjoy seeing greener towns and cities with more animals in them.

I think I would feel scared of wildlife in towns and cities.

Wildlife might cause problems in towns and cities.

I don't like the look of plants growing in towns and cities.

No

We will be sharing your thoughts on this topic with Eco-Schools, Earth Cubs, Let's Go Zero, Scottish Wildlife Trust and The World Economic Forum.

Log in to your VotesforSchools account to submit your vote and leave a comment.