

Your

WILD QUIZ



A guide to setting up and hosting your own wild quiz, raising funds for Essex Wildlife Trust.

Love **Essex** • Love **Wildlife**

Registered Charity Number 210065



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR



Essex
Wildlife Trust

Your wild quiz guide

Thank you for making a difference for wildlife by hosting a quiz raising money for **Essex Wildlife Trust**.

Wildlife is under threat and we all have a responsibility to help it. There is an urgent need to tackle the ecological and climate emergencies, restore damaged habitats, increase ecological networks, and lobby for legislation that places natural heritage at the forefront of policies and forward planning.

Thank you for supporting your local conservation charity and helping us to create a wilder Essex.

Hold your own wild quiz and inspire your family and friends with wonderful wildlife facts! This pack is your own quiz guide to give you the tools to hold your own wild quiz. We've included questions and answers, top tips and advice on how to fundraise, and **how to make your quiz a huge success**.

How to make the most of your wild quiz

1

Date and time

Pick a date and time, then tell everyone!

3

Get hosting

Hold your quiz night and raise funds for wildlife.

2

Let us know about your quiz

We'd love to hear about your quiz night!
Email us at fundraise@essexwt.org.uk.

4

Collect the donations

Add up your donations and send them in.

Paying in your donations

You did it for wildlife! Here's how to pay it in:

Text*

Text **WILDQUIZ** to **70490** to donate **£3**
Text **WILDQUIZ 5** to **70490** to donate **£5**
Text **WILDQUIZ 10** to **70490** to donate **£10**
Text **WILDQUIZ 20** to **70490** to donate **£20**

Website

Pay in your fundraising online by visiting our website: www.Essexwt.org.uk/donate

JustGiving

Set up your own page and collect donations online at: www.justgiving.com/ewt/donate



*Texts cost £3 or chosen amount plus one standard rate message and you will be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £3 but do not wish to receive marketing and communications text **WILDQUIZNOINFO** to **70490**.

There are so many ways to raise money for **Essex Wildlife Trust**, but why not try one of our **top ideas**?

Top ideas for extra fundraising for your quiz

1

Hold a raffle

The prize could be anything you want, each entrance to your raffle will support wildlife.

2

Collection tins

Why not order your own collection tin? Watch the loose change add up, it all makes a huge difference. Get in touch, email fundraise@essexwt.org.uk

3

Sweepstake

Head over to our fundraising toolkit to **download our sweepstake**. Take a guess at how many Billie the badgers are hiding in the sweepstake poster. For each guess, collect a suggested donation.

4

Phone fine

Anyone caught on their phone will have to pay a phone fine.

5

Bar snack buffet

Offer the teams a selection of snacks in exchange for a donation. **Make it a quiz bake off** and get your participants to bring along a selection of tasty bakes.

6

Matched giving

Some employers generously match money raised for charity by their staff. Have a chat to your workplace to see if this is possible. Do they have a charity of the year partnership, could you nominate Essex Wildlife Trust?



If you feel inspired to learn more about the wildlife around us, make sure you visit the Essex Wildlife Trust website wildlife pages. There's lots of amazing pictures to help you identify the species you can see in your local area: www.Essexwt.org.uk/wildlife

Round 1

How well do you know your winter wildlife?

From migration to hibernation, our wildlife will be deploying a range of strategies to survive this challenging season. **Let's test your knowledge** and don't forget to check the answer section to discover further fascinating facts about our natural world.

- Hedgehogs and dormice are the only UK mammals that hibernate**
 - True
 - False
- In a wasp colony, does only the queen wasp survive winter?**
 - True
 - False
- When is the mating season for foxes?**
 - Spring
 - Autumn
 - Summer
 - Winter
- Why are starling murmurations most impressive during the winter months?**
 - Flock sizes are at their biggest
 - They are solitary birds the rest of the year
 - They make an impressive noise
 - They swerve in the sky to avoid cold pockets of air
- What enables grey seal pups to survive the freezing cold ocean?**
 - Fur
 - Their habitat on land
 - Their diet
 - Blubber
- Which of the following trees keeps its leaves over winter?**
 - Horse chestnut
 - Sessile oak
 - Juniper
 - Common lime
- What is the smallest bird of prey in the UK?**
 - Sparrowhawk
 - Hobby
 - Merlin
 - Kestrel
- Which of these birds has a distinctive forked tail?**
 - Buzzard
 - Red kite
 - Marsh harrier
 - Barn owl
- Robins stop singing in winter**
 - True
 - False
- What type of goose arrives in their thousands from eastern Siberia to spend the winter on the Essex coast?**
 - Dark-bellied brent goose
 - Egyptian goose
 - Pink footed goose
 - Barnacle goose

Round 2

Step into spring

We have rounded up ten of our favourite native wildflowers that help pollinators to thrive. Can you name the flowers?

1. What is it?

This flower is **part of the daisy family**. It has a **bright blue flower head** that is **comprised** of lots of smaller flowers.



6. What is it?

This flower looks a bit like an **insect** and has a **velvet-texture**.



2. What is it?

This plant has lots of **tubular flowers** arranged around a tall long stem.



7. What is it?

It has a **sweet scent** that may draw you in, but beware of this highly **poisonous** plant that **belongs to the genus convallaria**.



3. What is it?

The concentration of **aluminium** in the soil **determines the colour** of the blooms on this plant.



8. What is it?

This plant **appears in hedgerows** and has **pale pink flowers**.



4. What is it?

This plant really **earns its name** thanks to the **shape and colour** of its blooms.



9. What is it?

This flower is often the first sign that **spring is just around the corner**.



5. What is it?

These flowers are spotted in woodland clearings and each of the five petals has a notch at the end.



10. What is it?

These pink-and-purple-chequered flowers are said to **represent a snake**.



Round 3

Explore the Essex coast

August is Essex Wildlife Trust's Marine Month, a whole month to appreciate, celebrate and wonder our 350 mile coastline and the wildlife within. **Let's see how many species you can identify!**

1.



6.



2.



7.



3.



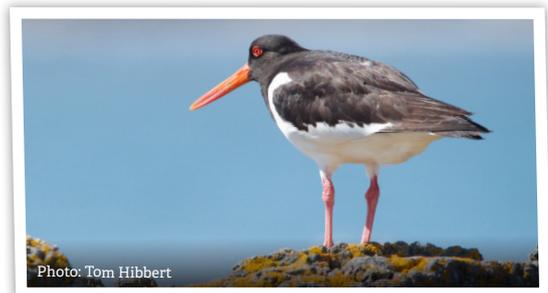
8.



4.



9.



5.



10.



Visit www.Essexwt.org.uk/marine-month to find out more about **Marine Month activities in Essex**. You can support marine wildlife even further by taking part in our Essex Coastal Challenge.

Round 4

Can you conker our autumn round?

With shorter days, crisp temperatures, blazing colours and the arrival of familiar migratory birds, autumn in Essex is an exciting time of year. **Let's test your unbe-leaf-able knowledge!**

- 1. What causes the change from summer to autumn?**

A The Moon **C** The Earth's Magnetic Field
B The Sun **D** The Earth's tilt
- 2. What is the name for a group of hedgehogs?**

A Army **C** Array
B Colony **D** Spike
- 3. A winter migrant to the UK, usually arriving in October and November, can you name this member of the thrush family?**

A Fieldfare **C** Brambling
B Hoopoe **D** Song thrush
- 4. Which british garden bird is known for its autumn song?**

A Blackbird **C** Wood pigeon
B Robin **D** Mistle thrush
- 5. The berries of the mountain ash tree are a favourite food of waxwings, by what other name is this tree known?**

A Rowan **C** Douglas fir
B Hawthorn **D** Winterberry
- 6. Squirrels, jays and nuthatches are known for creating food caches in the autumn. Which other garden bird also stores food?**

A Robin **C** Coal tit
B House sparrow **D** Blackbird
- 7. In autumn, swallows from the UK migrate to Africa. On average, how many miles a day do they cover?**

A 20 miles **C** 200 miles
B 500 miles **D** 2000 miles
- 8. During autumn, many leaves turn orange because of which pigment?**

A Xanthophylls **C** Carotene
B Melanin **D** Chlorophyll
- 9. Which fungi is red and white and is often pictured as the classic fairy tale toadstool?**

A Cedar cup **C** Tawny grisette
B Birch polypore **D** Fly agaric
- 10. When is the official end to autumn?**

A Autumn equinox **C** Bonfire night
B Winter solstice **D** Halloween

Answers...

with lots of wild facts!

Round 1

Winter wildlife answers

1. B: False

There are actually 20 mammals in the UK that hibernate, 18 of these are species of bat.

2. A: True

Come winter, all common wasps will die of cold or starvation with the exception of queens. These females will mate in the summer and find a place to hibernate before reemerging into spring, producing a new colony to raise the next generation of wasps.

3. D: Winter

The screeching of foxes on a cold winters night is one of the defining sounds of the season. Mating typically occurs in January with the young then born in spring.

4. A: Flock sizes are at their biggest

These mesmerising murmurations happen when the birds gather in larger flocks to roost together and they fly in unison to avoid hunting predators. Sadly, starling numbers have declined by more than 60% in recent decades so this spectacle is becoming less common, but in winter they can be seen flying alongside coastal lands, throughout the country.

5. D: Blubber

A layer of fat called blubber keeps grey seals warm. Grey seal pups need to shed their baby fur at two to three weeks old before they are waterproof, meanwhile they will gain 2kg in weight every day to build up blubber.



Photo: Tom Marshall



DID YOU KNOW?

Red foxes are our only wild member of the dog family and live in a burrow system called a 'den'.

6. C: Juniper

Famous for its traditional role in gin making. Once common on downland, moorland and coastal heathland, it is now much rarer due to habitat loss.

7. C: Merlin

Merlins are the smallest bird of prey in the UK. They are found mainly in the uplands, living on moors and hillsides.

8. B: Red kite

Successful reintroduction programmes have rescued the red kites from the brink of extinction.

9. B: False

Robins defend their territories all year round. Compared to the loud, rich and varied song they sing in spring, the winter song is weaker and more downhearted.

10. A: Dark-bellied brent goose

Up to a quarter of the World's population of dark-bellied brent geese spend the winter on the Essex coast after completing their 2,500 mile migration from eastern Siberia.

Answers...

with lots of wild facts!

Round 2

Step into spring answers

1. Cornflower

These were **once seen as weeds**. Now they are planted to help bees and butterflies thrive.

2. Foxglove

Their **tubular flowers** are known for being 'finger-like' and leaves are spirally arranged at the base. The toxins from foxglove are used in a drug prescribed for heart conditions.

3. Oxlip

For many years it was thought that the oxlip was cowslip/primrose hybrid. It wasn't until 1842 that the botanist Henry Doubleday did some breeding tests that suggested they weren't.

4. Bluebell

Part of the same genus as hyacinth, **bluebells feature up to 12 flowers per stem**. Each of these bells has a strong, sweet scent and resembles a bell hanging below the stem. You can also find other shades of bluebells including pink, purple and white.

5. Primrose

Its name originates from the word 'primus' which means 'first' or 'early'. Primrose is **one of the first plants that bloom in the spring**.



Photo: Tom Marshall

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bluebell's Latin name, *Hyacinthoides*, comes from a Greek myth: when the Prince Hyacinthus died, the tears of the god Apollo spelled the word 'alas' on the petals of the hyacinth flower that sprang up from his blood.

6. Bee orchid

They **mimic a female bee** to help them pollinate. To help attract male bees they even emit a female bee scent. Sadly, the right bee species doesn't live here, so this orchid is self-pollinated in the UK.

7. Lily of the valley

It's not a lily but lily of the valley does produce a beautiful white shaped white blooms. This perennial is very poisonous if ingested, and even its scent **contains a paralyzing agent** that can temporarily blind your nose to other smells.

8. Dog rose

Sweet-scented pink or white flowers appear in June and July. In the autumn, it produces **bright red rosehips** that are often eaten by birds and small mammals.

9. Snowdrop

There are more than **2,500 varieties of snowdrop**. They vary in height from 7cm to 30cm and are divided into approximately 20 species.

10. Snake's head fritillary

The nodding, pink-and-purple-chequered flowers of the snake's-head fritillary are **said to resemble a snake**, hence the name.

Answers...

with lots of wild facts!

Round 3

Explore the Essex coast answers



DID YOU KNOW?

Essex Common seals are pretty special because of the colour their fur can turn; an eye-catching orange! They can gain this orange hue from the iron oxide found in the mud that they haul out on around the Essex coast.

1. Serrated wrack seaweed

This brown seaweed lives in the lower shore and gets its name from the **serrated edges to its fronds**. It is common on rocky shores all around our coasts.

2. Moon jellyfish

Around the size of a plate, it is **recognisable by the four circles** visible through the translucent white bell. These four circles are gonads, the reproductive organs located at the bottom of the stomach, and they are normally purple in colour.

3. Ringed plover

The ringed plover tempts underground prey to the surface by 'foot-trembling': tapping its feet fast on the ground to **mimic raindrops**.

4. Shore crab

The shore crab sometimes falls victim to one of nature's weirdest parasites. The **crab hacker barnacle** lands on the shore crab and castrates it, before using it as a host to carry the barnacle's eggs instead!

5. Common oyster

Also known as native oysters, their oyster beds form an important habitat off the Essex coast. They **filter out suspended matter**, helping improve water quality and their oyster beds also provide a valuable nursery habitat for many fish species.

6. Common seal

Common seals have been known to swim up rivers in search of their next meal and have even been **spotted over a hundred miles upstream!**

7. Common mussel

Common mussels have a beard! The tuft of byssal threads that anchor the mussel to the seabed and other mussels are often called the beard - and they are incredibly strong!

8. Seagrass

Seagrasses are the only flowering plants able to live in seawater and **pollinate while submerged**.

9. Oystercatcher

The oystercatcher is a **very noisy wading bird** with a loud 'peep-ing' call. On the coast, it specialises in eating shellfish, particularly cockles and mussels, which it either prises or hammers open with its strong, flattened bill.

10. Barnacle

Barnacles are so **common on our rocky shores** that you've probably never really noticed them. They're actually tiny little crustaceans and are related to crabs and lobsters!



Photo: Terry Whittaker/2020VISION

Answers...

with lots of wild facts!

Round 4

Conkering autumn answers

1. **D: The Earth's tilt**

The axis of rotation of the Earth is tilted 23.4 degrees and it's this tilt that gives us our seasonal cycles every year.

2. **C: Array**

Hedgehogs are known for their ability to roll themselves into a ball of spines when threatened. These spines are actually modified hairs and the average hedgehog has about 7,000 of them, which can be raised using powerful muscles along their back.

3. **A: Fieldfare**

Fieldfares will nest in small colonies, giving them greater protection against predators and higher breeding success. They will aggressively defend the nest, often pelting intruders with droppings.

4. **B: Robin**

Robins have been associated with Christmas ever since Victorian times; Victorian postmen, who were known as 'robin red-breasts' because of their red waistcoats, are thought to be the inspiration for so many robins appearing on our Christmas cards.

5. **A: Rowan**

Rowan is also known as 'mountain ash' because of the Ash-like shape of its leaves and its preference for upland areas - it is often seen standing as a lone tree in a dramatic, windswept landscape.



DID YOU KNOW?



Fieldfares are sociable birds and can be seen in flocks of more than 200 birds roaming through the countryside in autumn and winter, on their hunt for berries.

6. **C: Coal tit**

They have a song of repeated phrases that are similar to those of great tits, but sound thinner and more high-pitched, like a bicycle pump.

7. **C: 200 miles**

Until the 19th century, people thought that the swallow hibernated over winter. Of course, we now know that it migrates to Africa from the UK, undertaking a perilous journey, during which it is vulnerable to starvation and stormy weather.

8. **C: Carotene**

Different chemical pigments in leaves result in the varied beautiful colours you see in autumn: yellow flavonols, orange carotenoids and red to purple anthocyanins.

9. **D: Fly agaric**

Despite it being toxic to us, there are some animals that do eat fly agaric. These include red squirrels and slugs, as well as specialists such as fungus gnats.

10. **B: Winter solstice**

The winter solstice marks the exact moment when half of Earth is tilted the farthest away from the sun, resulting in the shortest amount of daylight hours for us. In the UK this is the 21st December.

Answer sheet

Thank you for making a difference for wildlife by taking part in a quiz to raise money for **Essex Wildlife Trust**.

Round 1

Winter wildlife

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Round 2

Step into spring

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

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10. _____

By donating you are making a huge difference. Your donation protects wildlife and wild places in Essex. We can only do it with your help. To find out more about how you can get involved, email fundraise@essexwt.org.uk.



Answer sheet

Thank you for making a difference for wildlife by taking part in a quiz to raise money for **Essex Wildlife Trust**.

Round 3

Explore the Essex coast

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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9. _____

10. _____

Round 4

Conkering autumn

1. _____

2. _____

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4. _____

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9. _____

10. _____

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