

FAUNA



Hare
An Giorria

Hares are larger than rabbits, with long black-tipped ears and long hind legs. They do not burrow, but instead dig shallow resting hollows on the ground surface. A herbivore, the hare feeds mainly at night on grasses and sedges. They breed several litters each year. Tá giorriacha níos mó ná coiníni, agus tá cluasa fada barrdhubha agus cosa fada deiridh acu. Ní bhíonn uachais ag giorriacha, ach déanann siad loig scíthe éadoimhne a thochailt ar dhromchla na talún. Is luibhiteoir an giorria a bheathaíonn ar fhéara agus cib san oíche go príomha. Déanann siad roinnt álta a phórú gach bliain.



Frog
An Frog

The frog is an insect-eating amphibian, living equally well in water and on land. A frog's skin is smooth and moist. During the winter frogs hibernate, and in spring they breed by spawning. Tadpoles take 10 weeks to grow into tiny frogs. Is amfaibiach an frog a itheann feithidí, agus atá ábalta maireachtáil in uisce agus ar thalamh. Tá craiceann an fhroig mín agus tais. Déanann froganna codladh geimhridh, agus bíonn siad ag pórú i rith an earraigh trí sceitheadh. Tógann sé 10 sheachtain ar shúmadóirí chun fás ina bhfroganna beaga.



Curlew
An Crotach

With its distinctive cry and long curved bill, the curlew is easily identified. It has grey and brown plumage with a white underside. It feeds on insects, berries and seeds. It nests on the bog between April and June, laying four eggs in only one brood per year. Lena scréach shainiúil agus gob fada cuarach, tá an crotach éasca le haithint. Tá cluimhreach liath agus donn aige agus tá sé ban in iochtar. Beathaíonn sé ar fheithidí, chaora agus shíolta. Nedaíonn sé ar an bportach idir Aibreán agus Meitheamh, ag breith ceithre ubh in aon ál amháin in aghaidh na bliana.



Snipe
An Naoscach

The snipe has a long bill, and black and brown plumage with cream-white stripes on its head and back. When disturbed it calls out, flying off in a zigzag pattern. It eats seeds, worms and insects, and nests in wet hollows between April and June. Tá gob fada ag an naoscach, agus cluimhreach bhán agus dhonn le straidhpeanna buibhána ar a cheann agus ar a chúl. Ligeann sé scréach nuair a chuirtear isteach air, ag eitilt leis i bpatrún fiarláin. Itheann sé síolta, péisteanna agus feithidí, agus nedaíonn sé i loig fhliucha idir Aibreán agus Meitheamh.



Orange-tip Butterfly
An Barr Buí

One of the first spring butterflies, orange-tips feed on the nectar of lady's smock, a wetland plant. The outer halves of the forewings are orange in the male, black and white in the female. Caterpillars are active from May to August, after which they hibernate. Ceann de chéad fhéileacáin an earraigh, beathaíonn barra buí ar neachtar an phlanda bogaigh, an léine Mhuire. Tá leath seachtrach na gcliathán tosaigh flannbhui ag an bhfireannach, dubh agus bán ag an mbaineannach. Bíonn boilb gníomhach ó Bhealtaine go Lúnasa, agus déanann siad codladh geimhridh ina dhiaidh sin.



Whorl Snail
An Seilide Rothóige

Whorl snails are only 3mm long and live under moist mosses in fens. Their shells are translucent, yellowish or brownish in colour, with tiny teeth inside the rim. They eat living and dead plant stems and leaves, and are protected under the European Habitats Directive. Níl seilidí rothóige ach 3mm ar fhad agus cónaíonn siad faoi chaonaigh thaise in eanaigh. Tá na blaoscanna trédhearcach, scothbhui nó scothdhonn, le fiacra beaga laistigh den imeall. Itheann siad gais agus duilleoga ó phlandaí beo agus marbh, agus tá siad cosanta faoin Treoir maidir le Gnáthóga ón Aontas Eorpach.



Damselfly
An Bhéchuil

Damselflies are similar to dragonflies, but at rest their wings are held alongside and parallel to their bodies, and they are generally smaller and weaker in flight. Adults lay their eggs in water, where the nymphal stage develops, feeding on small aquatic organisms. Tá béchuileanna cosúil le snáthaidí móra, ach ar fos, coinníonn siad a sciatháin le hais agus cothrománach lena gcorp, agus tá siad níos lú agus níos laige le linn eitilte go ginearálta. Déanann na haosaigh a n-uibheacha a bhreith in uisce, áit a fhorbraíonn an tréimhse nimfí, ag beathú ar orgánaigh bheaga uiscí.



Reed Bunting
An Gealbhan Giolcaí

Reed buntings are slim birds with long, deeply notched tails. Males have black heads and white collars; females and winter males have streaked heads. They nest in tall reeds, laying four to seven eggs. When feeding their young they eat insects, but otherwise they eat seeds. Tá gealbhain ghiolcaí tanaí le heireabaill atá eangaithe go domhain. Tá cloigne dubha agus coiléir bhána ag fireannaigh; tá cloigne stríocacha ag baineannaigh agus fireannaigh gheimhridh. Nedaíonn siad i ngiolcacha arda, ag breith idir ceithre agus seacht n-ubh. Itheann siad feithidí nuair atá siad ag beathú a sliocht óg, ach itheann siad síolta i ngach cás eile.