

# FAUNA



## Millipede *Mílechosaigh*

Millipedes (their name means ‘thousand legs’) actually have 47-197 pairs of legs, depending on the species. They like dark damp places, where they eat dead vegetation, in turn providing food for birds, badgers and mice. When in danger millipedes curl up to protect their soft undersides.

Cé go gciallaíonn an t-ainm go bhfuil míle cos acu níl acu i ndáiríre ach idir 47 agus 197 péire cos. Braitheann an méid ar an speiceas. Is maith leo áiteanna dorcha taise, áit ina n-itheann siad fásra marbh agus ansin bíonn siad féin mar bhia ag éin, broic agus luch. Cuachann mílechosaigh iad féin nuair a bhíonn baol ann chun a gcuid bog íochtair a chosaint.



## Green Arches Moth *Leamhan Stuaghlas*

Ireland has more than 500 moth species. The green arches moth lives in old woodland, and like many woodland moths, it eats tree leaves. The adult is brilliantly camouflaged amidst the woodland foliage. As with other moths, it is a favourite food for bats.

Tá breis agus 500 speiceas de leamhain in Éirinn. Maireann an leamhan stuaghlas i seanchoillearnaigh agus faoi mar a dhéanann a lán leamhain coillearnaí itheann sé duilleoga crann. Tá duaithníocht iontach ag na cinn fásta i measc duilliúir na coillearnaí. Is é ceann de na bianna is fearr ag ialtoga iad leamhain.



## Wren *An Dreoilín*

The cute little wren is one of Ireland’s smallest, most common birds. It has a round body and a tail that sticks up distinctively. Its nest is ball-shaped, with a small hole in the side for access. It eats small insects and their larvae.

Tá an t-éan beag gleoite seo ar ceann de na héin is lú agus is coitianta in Éirinn. Tá corp cruinn aige agus eireaball a ghobann in airde go saineúil. Bíonn cuma liathróide ar a nead le poll ar thaobh amháin le dul isteach ann. Itheann sé feithidí beaga agus a larbhái.



## Wood Mouse *An Luch Féir*

To avoid predation, wood mice feed nocturnally on tree seeds like acorns, hazelnuts and ash keys, as well as insects, snails, worms, wild berries, fungi, moss and tree bark. They can move about the woodland quickly by climbing and even jumping from branch to branch.

Tagann an luch féir amach istoiche ar eagla go ndéanfaí creach de agus téann sé ar lorg dearcán, cnónna coll agus síolta fuinseog mar aon le feithidí, seilidí, péisteanna, caora fiáine, fungais, caonach agus coirt crann. Is féidir leo gluaiseacht go tapa tríd an gcoillearnach trí dhreapadh agus fiú léim ó chraobh go craobh.



## Long-eared Owl *An Ceann Cait*

This mottled brown owl is an excellent woodland predator. Its orange eyes have special night vision to hunt out small mammals among the woodland layers. Instead of making their own nests, long-eared owls use vacant squirrels’ dreys and old stick-nests of crows and sparrowhawks.

Dath donnbhrec atá ar an gceann cait agus is creachadóir den scoth é. Tá súile flannbhui aige agus radharc oíche speisialta aige chun mamaigh a fheiceáil i sraitheanna na coillearnaí. Ní thógann siad neadacha ach úsáideann siad sean-neadacha iorai nó sean-neadacha a thóg préacháin nó spioróga de chipíní.



## Badger *An Broc*

Badgers have long claws to dig in the woodland soil for worms, beetles and the roots of plants like bluebells and wild garlic. They live in family units in large ‘setts’ underground, built with tree roots as ceiling rafters. Common but shy, they are seldom seen.

Tá croibh fada faoin mbroc le tochailt i dtalamh na coillearnaí chun péisteanna, ciaróga agus fréamhacha plandaí mar chloigíní gorma agus creamh a fháil. Cónaíonn siad mar aonaid teaghlaigh i mbrocais a thógann siad faoi chrainn agus bíonn na fréamhacha mar fhraitheacha an díon acu. Is annamh a fheictear na hainmhithe coitianta seo toisc iad a bheith an-chúthaileach.



## Red Squirrel *An tIora Rua*

Ousted by competition from the introduced and more adaptable grey squirrel, red squirrels are becoming rarer in Ireland. They live in round nests called ‘dreys’ – framed with twigs and lined with moss and grass – high up in the tree canopy.

Tá iorai rua dúchasacha na hÉireann ag éirí gann toisc gur tugadh isteach iorai glasa atá níos inoiriúnaithe ná iad agus a chuaigh in iomaíocht leo. Cónaíonn siad i neadacha go hard i gceannbhrat na gcrann. Bíonn fráma cipíní acu agus caonach agus féar laistigh.



## Pine Marten *An Cat Crainn*

The ‘tree cat’ – the Irish name for the pine marten – describes it well. This elusive carnivore is found mostly in the west of Ireland. It hunts mainly by night, eating worms, beetles, snails, frogs, mice, small birds and birds’ eggs, as well as forest fruits.

Cur síos maith atá in ainm Gaeilge an ainmhithe seo. Feoiliteoir éalaitheach is ea é a fhaightear in iarthar na tíre don chuid is mó. Téann sé ag seilg istoiche de ghnáth agus itheann sé péisteanna, ciaróga, seilidí, froganna, luchóga, éin bheaga agus uibheacha éan mar aon le torthaí na coille.