

Yorkshire Wildlife fact files

Catshark

Scientific name: Scyliorhinus canicula



I lay my eggs in individual cases known as 'mermaids' purses'. Each egg case has long, curly tendrils so it can safely attach itself to seaweed.

Attach the photo of my eggs here

Did you know?

We may be called 'catsharks' but our young are called 'pups'!

(V) Helping me and my home:

If you find an empty egg case on the beach, you can take part in the Great Eggcase Hunt: sharktrust.org/great-eggcase-hunt

Grass snake

Scientific name: Natrix natrix



I love compost heaps and lay 10 to 40 eggs in rotting plants, incubating them until they hatch in early autumn.

Attach the photo of my eggs here

? Did you know?

I'm the UK's longest snake species (up to 150cm in length) but I'm harmless to humans! Can you slither along the ground and show off your best 'hiss'?

Melping me and my home:

Start to compost your food waste and create a wildlife home and larder!

Great crested newt

Scientific name: Triturus cristatus



I wrap each of my eggs in a carefully chosen pond plant leaf. I may do this up to 300 time each spring.

Attach the photo of my eggs here

Pid you know?

Males perform an elaborate courtship dance to attract a female. Show off your best dance moves!

Helping me and my home:

We are protected by law so if you spot one of us in a pond please don't disturb us.



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Puffin

Scientific name: Fratercula arctica



I lay one single egg in a little burrow or hole in a cliff. Both mum and dad help keep the egg warm for around six weeks before it hatches.

Attach the photo of my egg here

Pipefish

Scientific name: Syngnathinae spp.



Just like seahorses, male pipefish carry and care for their eggs!

Attach the photo of my eggs here

Orange tip butterfly

Scientific name: Anthocharis cardamines



I lay my orange eggs on plants that belong to the cabbage family like cuckooflower and garlic mustard.

Attach the photo of my eggs here

? Did you know?

Impress family and friends with the fact that baby puffins are called 'pufflings'.

Helping me and my home:

Do a litter pick wherever you live to help stop rubbish getting into our seas.

Pid you know?

We are masters of disguise – our long thin bodies are hard to spot in shallow rockpools Why not have a game of hide and seek?

Melping me and my home:

You can help our marine wildlife by reducing how much plastic you use and buy.

Pid you know?

My orange tips warn predators that I don't taste very nice! Only males like me have orange wingtips, females are white and black.

Helping me and my home:

Leaving a patch of stinging nettles in your garden provides food for butterflies and caterpillars.



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Blackbird

Scientific name: Turdus merula



I lay beautiful bluegreen speckled eggs in a nest lined with mud and soft grass.

Attach the photo of my eggs here

Toad

Scientific name: Bufo bufo



I try to go back to the pond where I was born to lay my own string of eggs (toad spawn).

Attach the photo of my eggs here

Common whelk

Scientific name: Buccinum undatum



Egg fact

I lay up to 2000 eggs in a spongy mass on the seabed. Look out for empty egg cases on the beach.

Attach the photo of my eggs here

Pid you know?

I like to sing after it has rained! Step outside or open your window; how many different birds can you hear?

Helping me and my home:

Blackbirds love our gardens as they are full of food and shelter. Plant a berry bush for winter feasting.

? Did you know?

We have shorter legs than frogs so we tend to crawl rather than jump. Can you crawl like a toad?

(// Helping me and my home:

Can you make a small pond to attract some amphibian friends?

? Did you know?

I'm the largest sea snail in the UK. Adults are 5-10cm long. Can you find something the same length?

(//) Helping me and my home:

Next time you're at the coast, see what you can spot in a rockpool - return everything to where you found it once you're finished.