

Heathland wildfire!

THAMES BASIN HEATHS
PARTNERSHIP



Our Amazing Heathlands

Wildfires are very destructive and put amazing plants and animals in danger. This activity sheet will help you find out about our amazing heathlands and what YOU can do to help keep them safe!

Heathlands are home to amazing wildlife... Draw a line to link each species to its name



Nightjar

Heather

**Green Tiger
Beetle**

Adder

Sundew

You can find out more about heathland species at www.tbpartnership.org.uk/wildlife-gallery

Wordsearch!

Can you outline the good words in **green** and the dangerous words in **red**?

HEATHER	WOODLARK	ADDER
NIGHTJAR	DESTRUCTION	BBQ
SMOKE	FIRE	BURN
STONECHAT	FLAMES	LIZARD



Did you know?

Most wildfires are caused by people being careless

You and your friends can help prevent wildfires next time you're on the heath by remembering:

- No fires
- No BBQs
- Take litter home

True or false?

(answers at the bottom of the page)

1. Wildfire can spread faster than an Olympic sprinter can run.
2. Nightjars migrate from Africa to spend the summer on our local heaths.
3. You should NEVER have a BBQ on the heath.
4. Heathland is rarer than rainforest.
5. If you see a fire on a heath you should always reported it to the Fire & Rescue Service (999).

#BeWildfireAware

The heathland wildfire story

Can you read the story and answer the questions?

It was a peaceful and sunny day on the heath. The woodlark was collecting food for her chicks, who were sleeping in their nest on the ground. The adder was staying cool under the bracken. Sarah was walking down the footpath, having a lovely time watching the wildlife.

Matt and his friends were in the middle of the heath having a small campfire. Suddenly, one of the sparks flew out of their campfire straight into a gorse bush, which set alight. The fire quickly grew - a wildfire!

Matt and his friends were worried they would get into trouble, so ran home. The fire spread across the heath quickly, burning through gorse, heather and bracken. The adder and woodlark tried to escape from the flames, leaving their shelter and their nest behind.



Sarah saw the fire on her walk. She got to a safe place right away, and then rang 999, asking for the Fire & Rescue service. On the call, she told the operator where and how big the fire was.

The firefighters arrived as soon as they could and managed to put out the fire. They thanked Sarah for doing the right thing. Sadly, an area of heath the size of a football pitch was burnt, but thanks to Sarah's fast response, the fire was stopped before it could spread any further.

The next day, the police visited Matt and his friends and told them off for having an illegal campfire. Their actions directly caused the destruction of lots of wildlife.

Most heathland wildfires are caused by people behaving carelessly. Never take any source of fire to the heath - no matches, no BBQs, no campfires and take all litter home.



Can you colour the pictures?

Questions!

How did the wildfire start?

Can you think of other ways a wildfire could start?

Who was responsible for this wildfire?

Apart from the woodlark and adder, who else was at risk from the wildfire?

What do you think happened to the woodlark chicks?

The adder's shelter was burnt in the fire.

How will this affect this rare snake?

Sarah took the right steps when she saw the wildfire.

Here are the steps in the wrong order - Put a letter in each box to put the steps in the correct order?

- (A) Ring 999 and ask for the Fire & Rescue service
- (B) Tell the operator where and how big the fire is
- (C) Get to a safe place



What can you do to prevent heathland wildfires?

