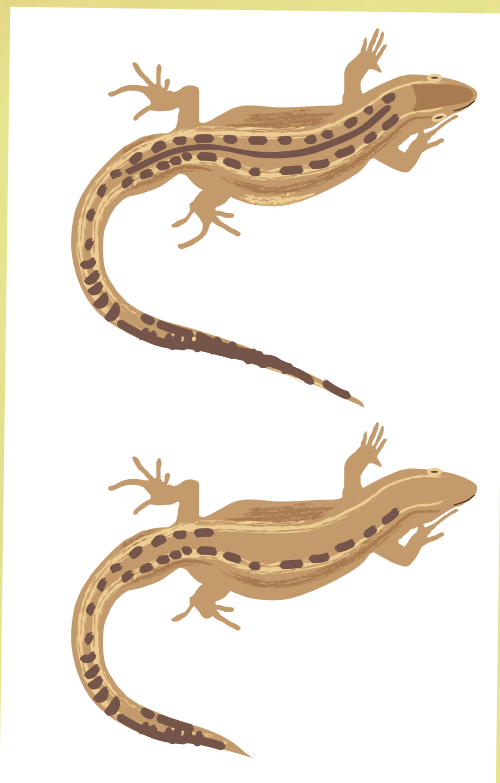




Heathland Explorers

Spot the difference.
Can you find all 7?



Common lizard

Can you find the 10 hidden heathland animals and plants?



snake nightjar woodlark beetle heather
nest gorse lizard sundew dragonfly

Round-leaved sundew



The Thames Basin Heaths Special
Protection Area is home to an
astonishing variety of hidden
wildlife. Help us to protect this
precious place on your doorstep.

www.tbhpartnership.org.uk





Green
tiger
beetle

4 fascinating facts about heathland...

1 Heathland habitat is actually rarer than rainforest! It's thought that many areas of heathland were created at least 6,000 years ago in the late Stone Age and Bronze Age, after our ancestors cleared the forest.

2 Often heard before it is seen, a stonechat is a bird common to heathland.



Stonechat

Its name comes from the strange noise it makes, which sounds like two stones being hit together.

3 The slow worm can be found on heathland. It is neither a worm nor a snake, but actually a legless lizard! This is given away by their ears and their ability to shed their tails and blink their eyelids.

4 Nightjars were once known as 'goat-suckers' because they were often seen in fields with goats and sheep, and villagers believed they were feeding on the milk of the livestock. However, the goats and sheep attracted a lot of insects, and the nightjars were actually feeding on these!



Nightjar

How you can help

Heathlands are home to some of Britain's rarest breeding birds, which nest on the ground and are very easily disturbed by people and dogs. So please stay on paths, and if you have a dog keep them on the path with you too!

You're welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy, but please don't bring BBQ's or light any fires.

Don't forget to take any litter home with you or put it in a bin. This includes dog waste!

Please always be respectful of heathland wildlife and other visitors.

Thank you!



Adder