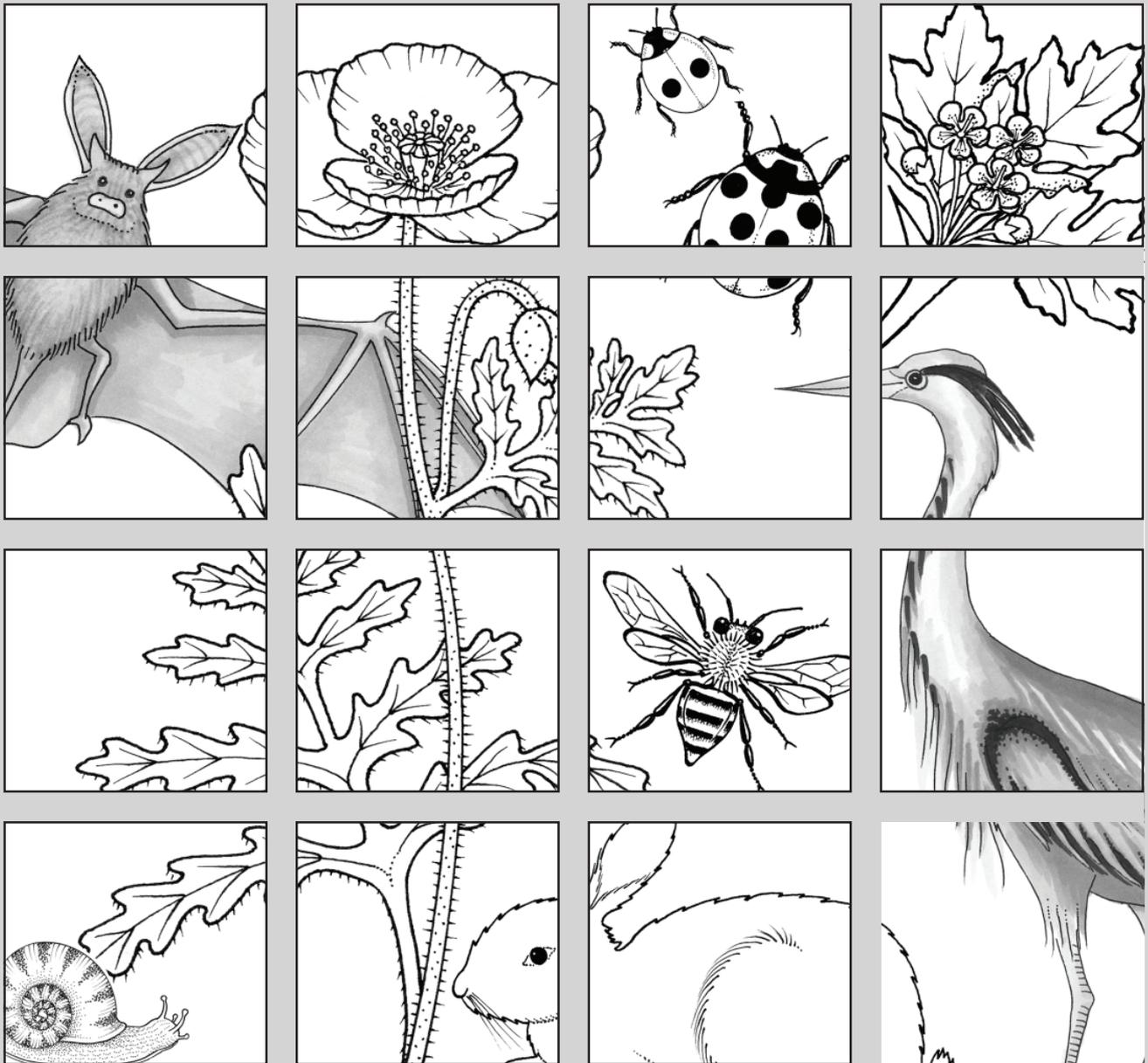


Wild Things at School

Worksheets for Primary School Students



by

Éanna Ní Lamhna

Illustrations by Christine Warner



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Graphic design *by* Bogfire

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Introduction to Junior Infants Worksheets

Daisy

Dandelion

Horse Chestnut

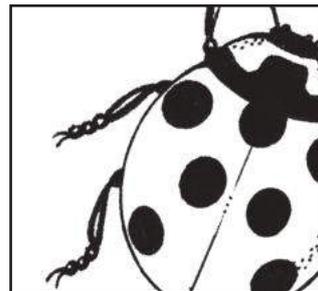
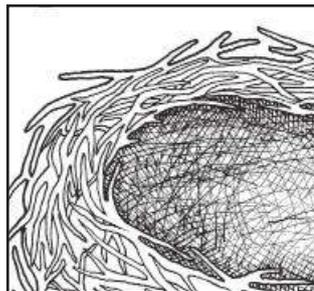
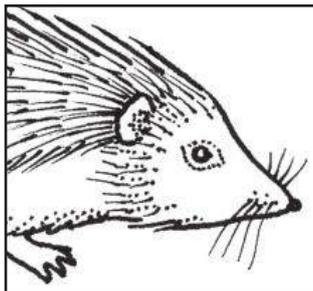
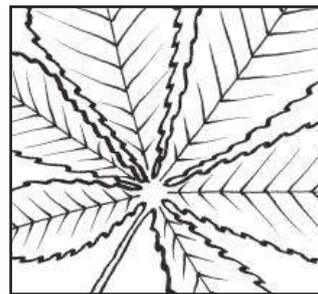
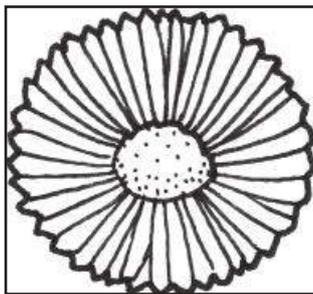
Hedgehog

Robin

Ladybird

In the Teachers' Book, the lessons on each topic contain suggestions for practical work to be carried out by the teacher with the pupils. The following worksheets are in addition to this and are designed to be used by the children themselves after each of the eight species in the teachers' handbook has been taught. They should be given to the pupils to work on and instructions about what to do on each one should be given by the teacher who should also show the pictures of each species provided.

Worksheets are given in the same order as the species in the handbook, although this is not necessarily the order in which they should be taught. Flowers can be found in September and more easily in May and June, for instance, while the horse chestnut has leaves in September and conkers and then the branches are bare until late March. These things need to be taken into consideration. There are two worksheets for each topic – twelve in all – and they are designed to be photocopied and handed out to the pupils.



Junior Infants Teacher Notes

Daisy 1

Worksheet in three sections

Writing practice:

Pupils practise writing the letter 'd'.

d d d d d d d

Counting practice:

Pupils count the number of daisies and write the total in the boxes.

Classification:

Pupils identify the daisies from a group of flowers and colour them in.

Daisy 2

Worksheet in three sections

(Do this when daisies are in flower.)

Identification and counting:

Pupils identify and count the daisies in a picture which also contains dandelions. The picture can then be coloured in.

Fieldwork outdoors and manual dexterity:

Pupils find daisies growing outside on school lawn. Each child collects two and sticks them in to the spaces provided.

Writing practice:

Write the word **daisy** over the letters in pale grey **daisy**.

Dandelion 1

Worksheet in three sections

Counting and recognising letters:

How many letters **d** in **dandelion**

How many letters **n** in **dandelion**

Counting and following instructions:

Pupils colour two dandelions (out of a line-up of 4 dandelions).

Recognising images:

Pupils find the dandelion in a line-up of flowers.

Dandelion 2

Worksheet in three sections

Fieldwork outdoors and manual dexterity:

Pupils find a dandelion leaf outdoors and stick it in the designated space.

Counting and classifying:

Pupils identify and count the dandelions in a picture which also contains daisies.

Observation skills:

Pupils find the odd one out in a line-up of dandelions where one is slightly different.

Horse Chestnut 1

Worksheet in three sections

Recognition and colouring:

Pupils colour in the chestnut leaf and the conker in its prickly shell.

Manual dexterity, make-and-do:

Pupils colour in the drawn leaf and then cut it out. Teacher can make a "tree" in class and stick on the leaves. If this is done in autumn some of the leaves can be coloured brown.

Horse Chestnut 2

Worksheet in three sections

Recognition:

Pupils find and colour in the chestnut leaf (from an array of three different leaves drawn).

Fieldwork and dexterity:

Find a chestnut leaf and stick it to the page in the section allocated for this. Note that chestnut leaves are large compound leaves with seven leaflets. What is required here is that just one of the leaflets is stuck to the page—a whole leaf with seven leaflets would be too large.

Fieldwork:

Pupils make a bark rubbing of a chestnut trunk. They put the page against a chestnut tree and rub a crayon over the bark box—an image of the tree texture will appear in the box.

Hedgehog 1

Worksheet in three sections

Counting:

How many hedgehogs—from a line-up of four hedgehogs?

Counting, Colouring and following instructions:

Pupils colour two hedgehogs only, in a line-up of five hedgehogs.

Visual and manual skills and elementary food chain:

Pupils draw the line the hedgehog must take through the maze to get to its food.

Hedgehog 2

Worksheet in three sections

Drawing skills:

Pupils finish the drawing of a hedgehog that has been presented as an incomplete drawing. They must then add the spines themselves.

Classification and association skills:

Lead the hedgehogs to the snails. Pupils should draw lines to join one hedgehog to one snail in a picture that has a group of hedgehogs and snails.

Writing skills:

Pupils write out the word **hedgehog** over the faint grey outline.

Robin 1

Make-and-do worksheet

Manual Dexterity:

This worksheet has a drawing of a robin, eggs and a nest. Pupils are asked to colour in the robin (brown back with red breast), the eggs (white with brown spots) and the nest made from twigs and moss. They then cut out the robin and the eggs, cut a slit at the top of the nest and insert the robin so that it is sitting on the nest. The eggs can be stuck underneath.

Robin 2

Make-and-do worksheet

Manual Dexterity, colouring and writing:

This worksheet, when folded in four, forms a Christmas card. Pupils colour it in and write on the four sections, as indicated. They can colour in the border on each page, too.

Ladybird 1

Worksheet in three sections

Counting and classification:

Pupils match the ladybirds. There are six in the drawing—three with two spots and three with seven spots. They can colour these ladybirds in red with black spots.

Counting and manual dexterity:

Pupils complete the drawing of a ladybird by joining the dots. They colour it red. Then they cut out the spots and stick them to the picture in the correct places.

Writing:

Pupils write the word **ladybird** over the pale grey outline of the word. **ladybird**

Ladybird 2

Worksheet in two sections with extra third option

Recognition and classification:

Pupils find the ladybirds in a picture that also contains flowers, hedgehogs etc.

Counting and following directions:

Pupils colour only the two-spot ladybirds in a group of ladybirds that contain a selection of species.

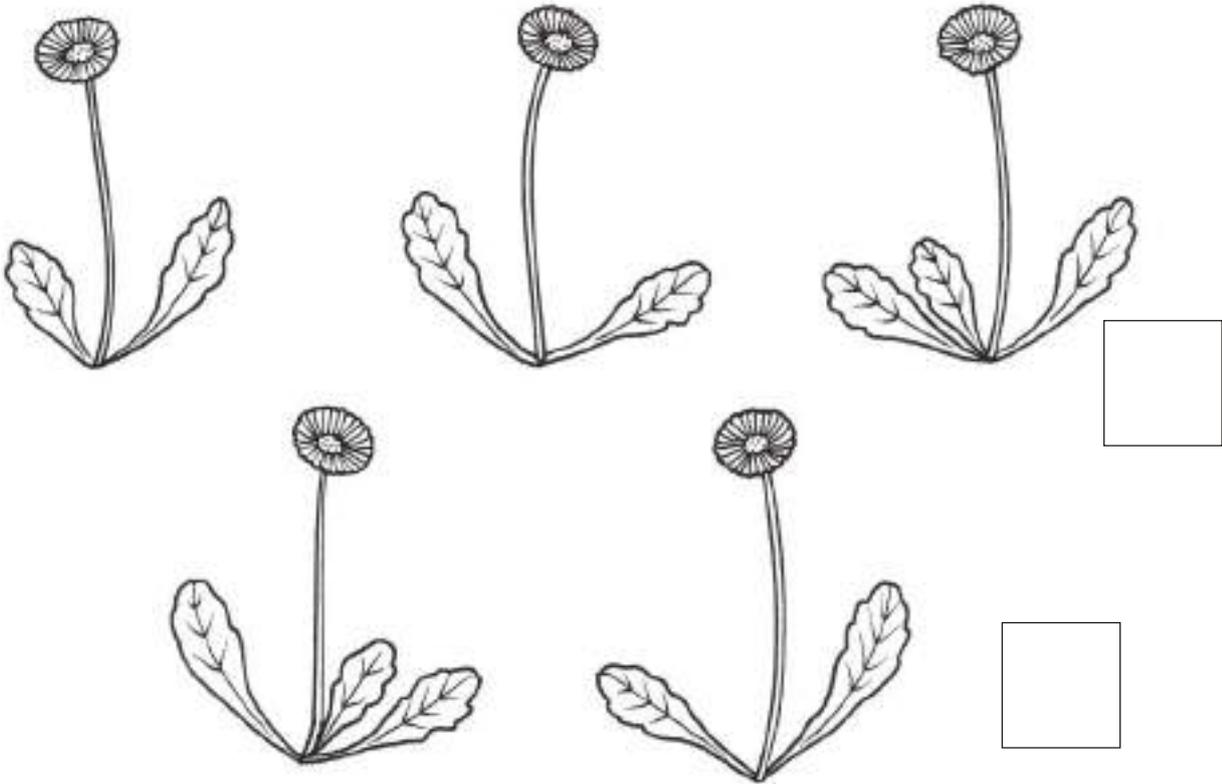
EXTRA OPTION

Accurate Drawing (on a separate blank page supplied by the teacher):

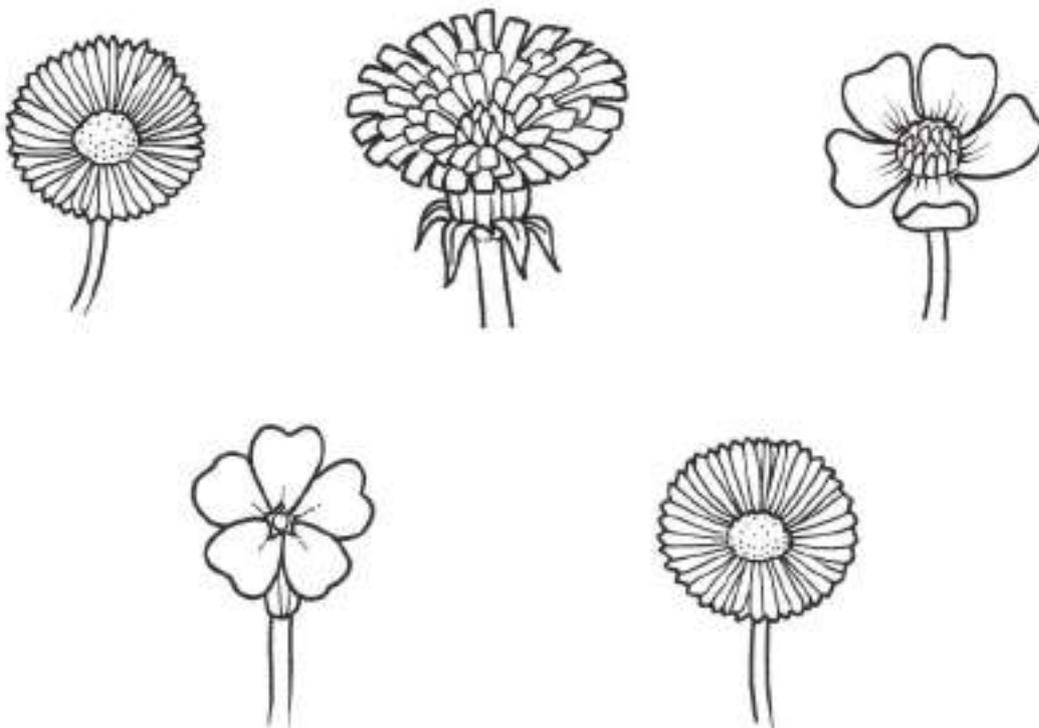
Pupils draw a picture of a ladybird in the box on the page provided – it should be an accurate 2- or 7-spot one. No ladybirds exist with 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, or 9 spots so make sure they do it scientifically correct. This is not a cartoon but a proper drawing of a ladybird to the best of their ability.

d d d

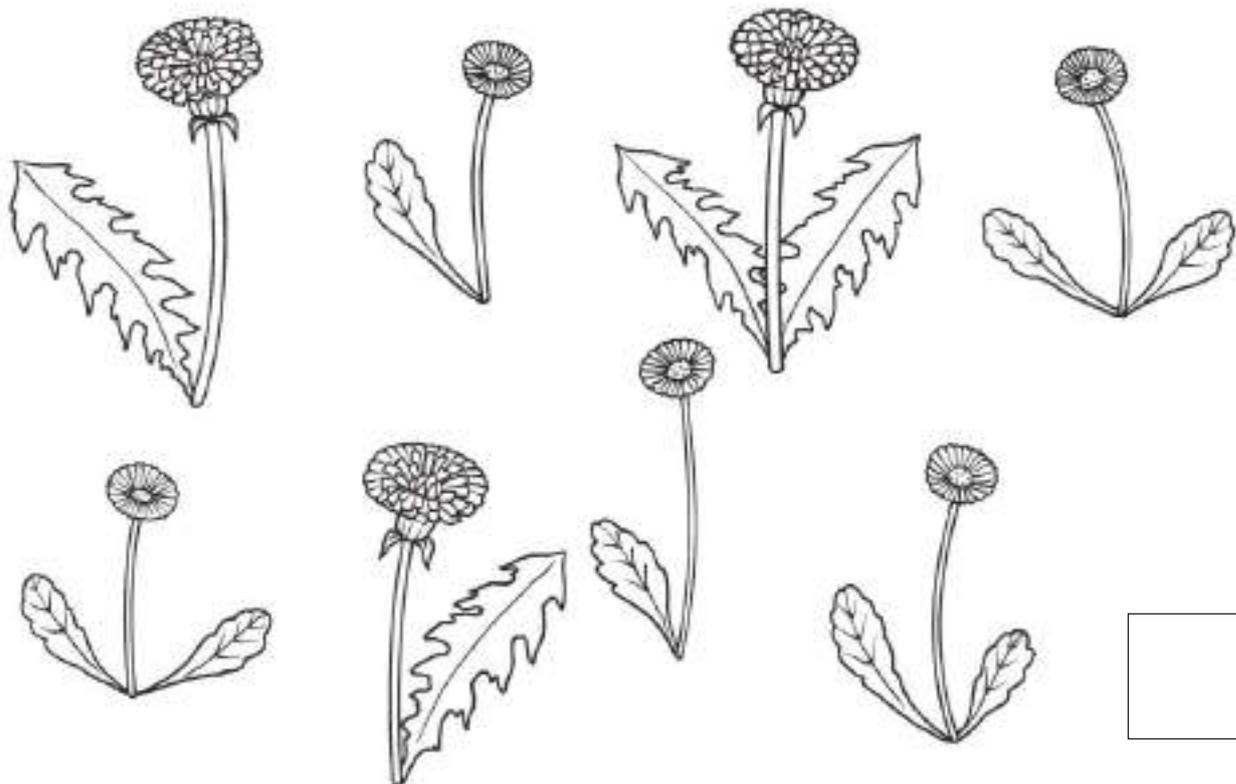
How many daisies?



Colour all the daisies.



How many daisies?



Go out and find 2 daisies and stick them to the page.

Fill in the word 'daisy'.

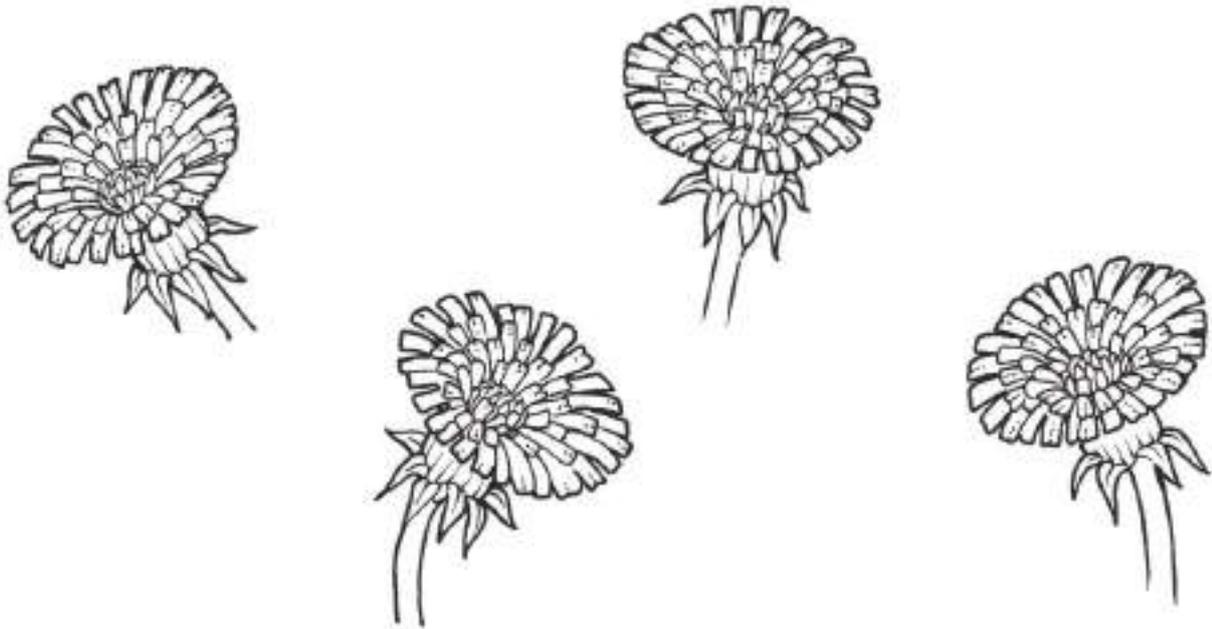
daisy

dandelion

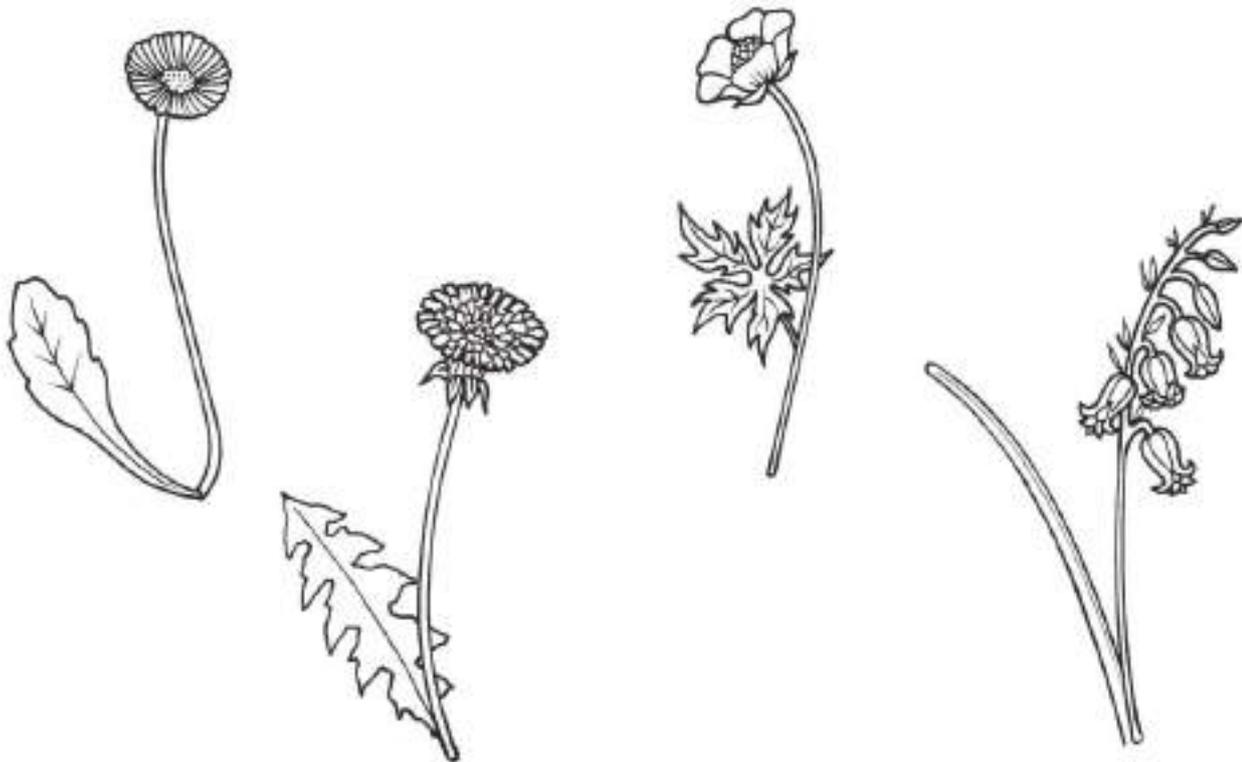
How many d's?

How many n's?

Colour 2 dandelions.

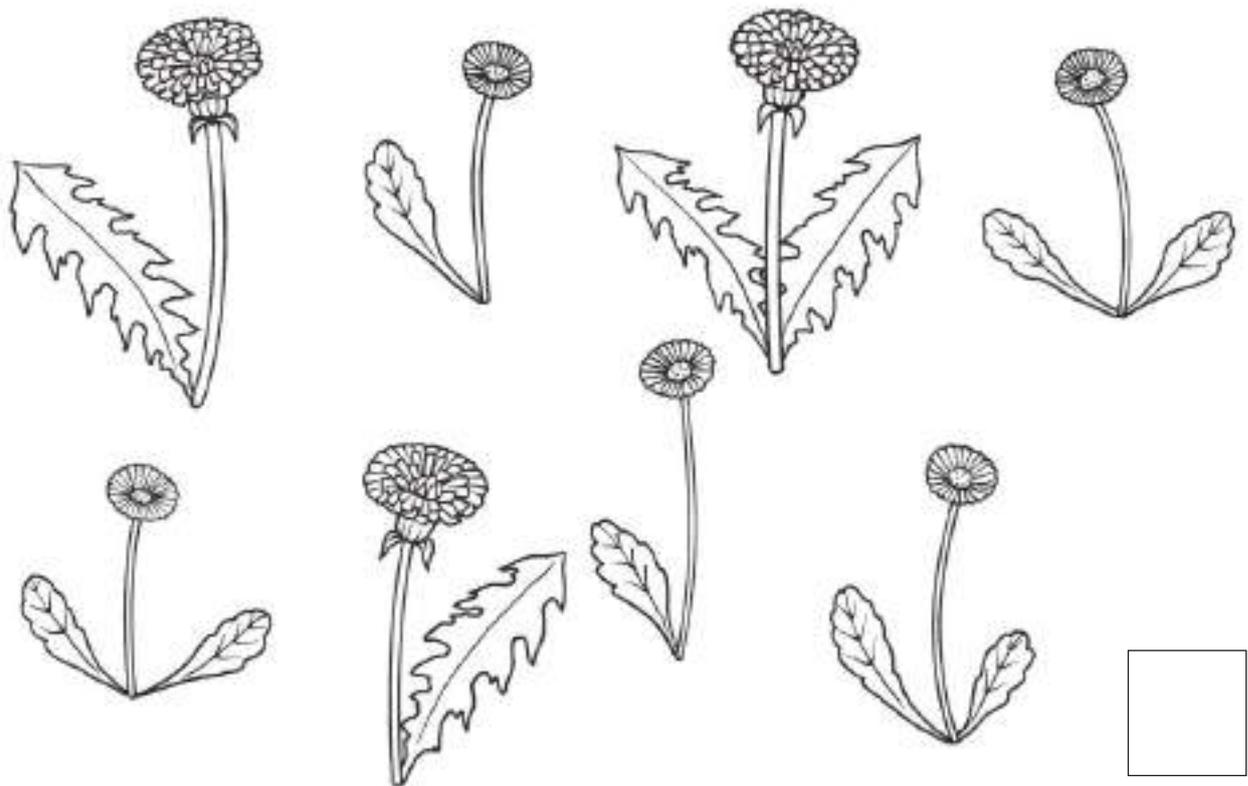


Find the dandelion.

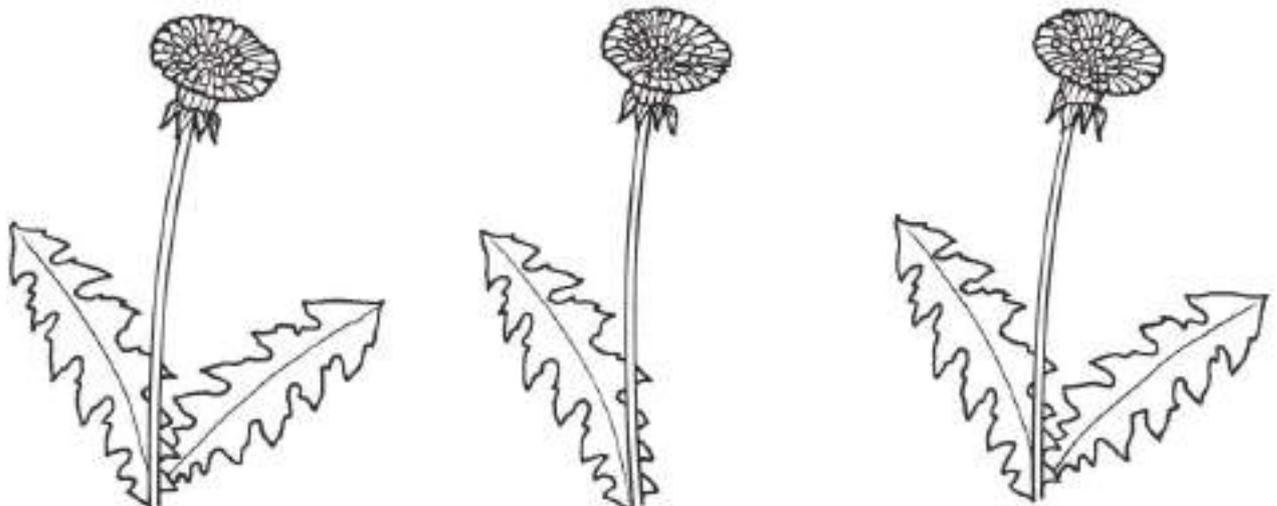


Find a dandelion leaf and stick it to the page.

How many dandelions?

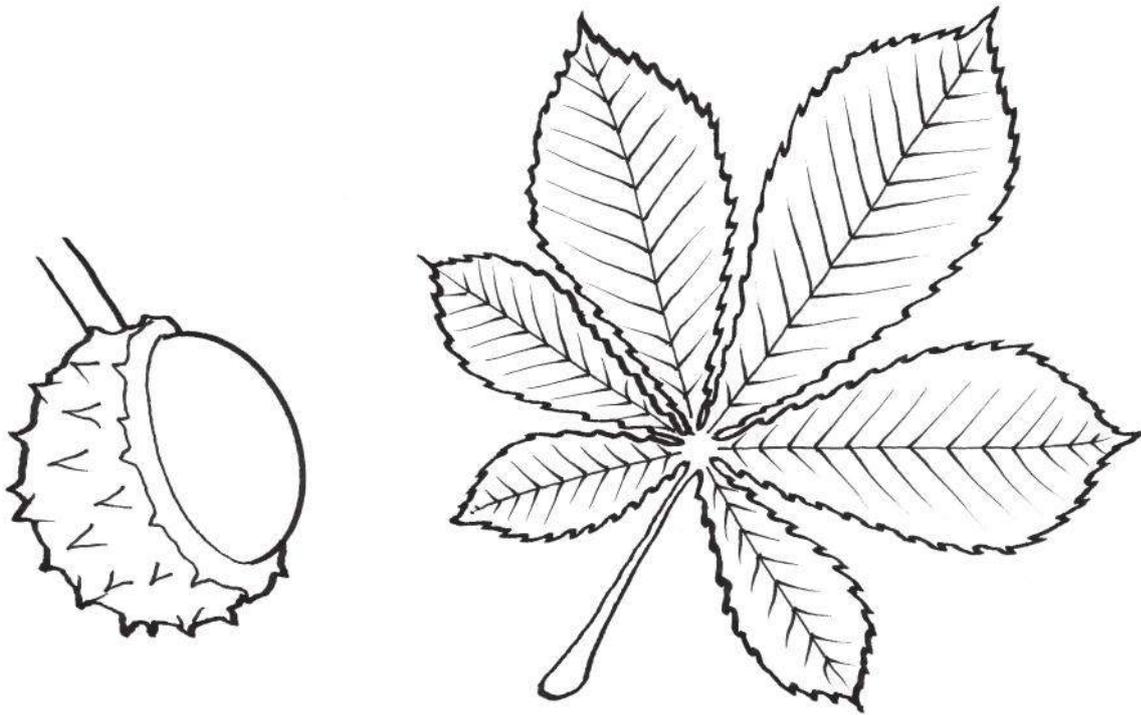


Find the odd one out.



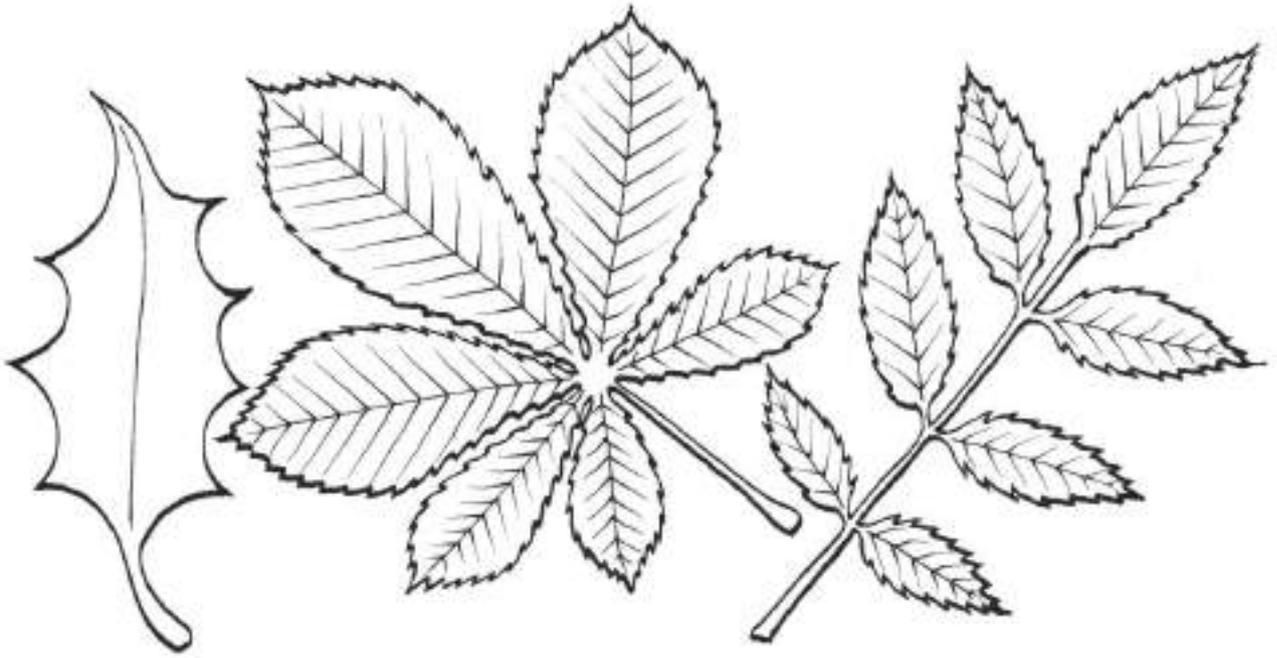
Colour the horse chestnut leaf.

Colour the conker.



Draw a leaf and colour it and cut it out.

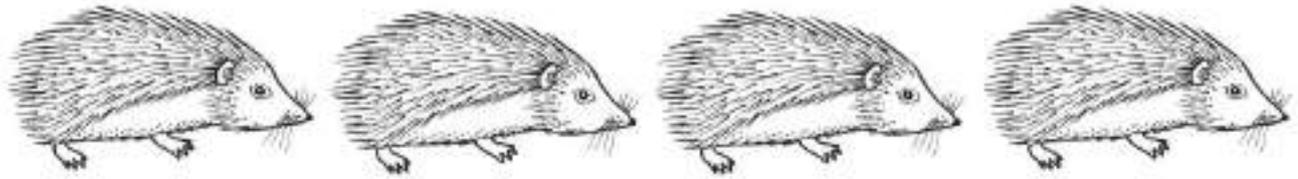
Find the horse chestnut leaf.



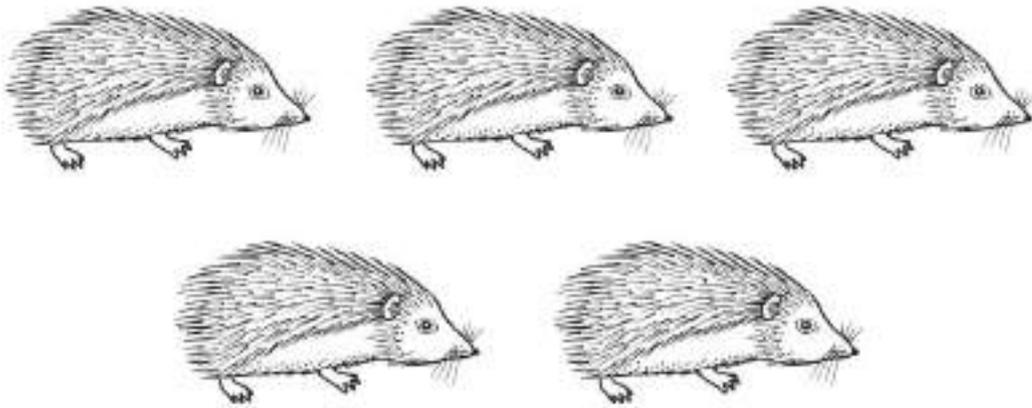
Find and stick on a leaf.

Make a rubbing of horse chestnut bark.

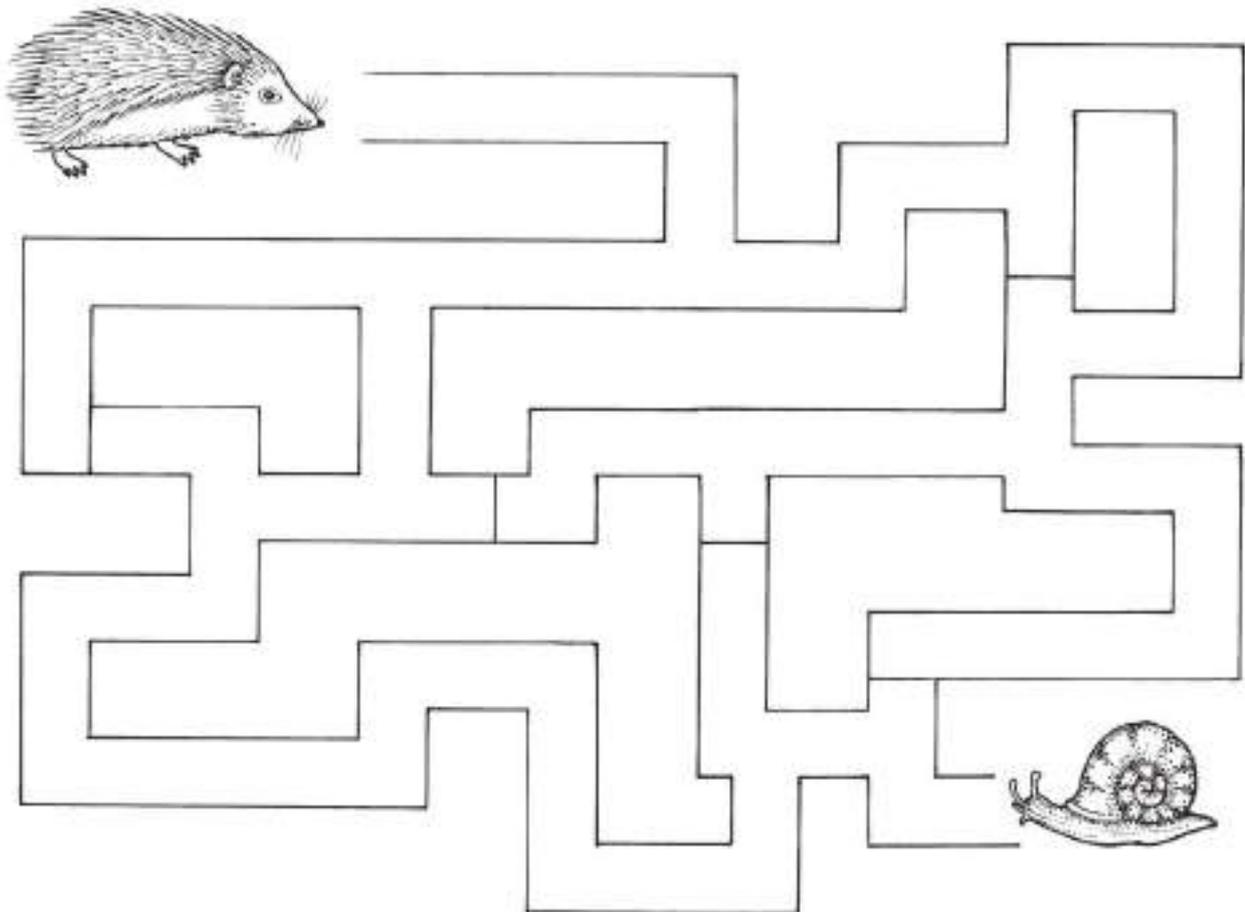
How many hedgehogs?



Colour two hedgehogs.



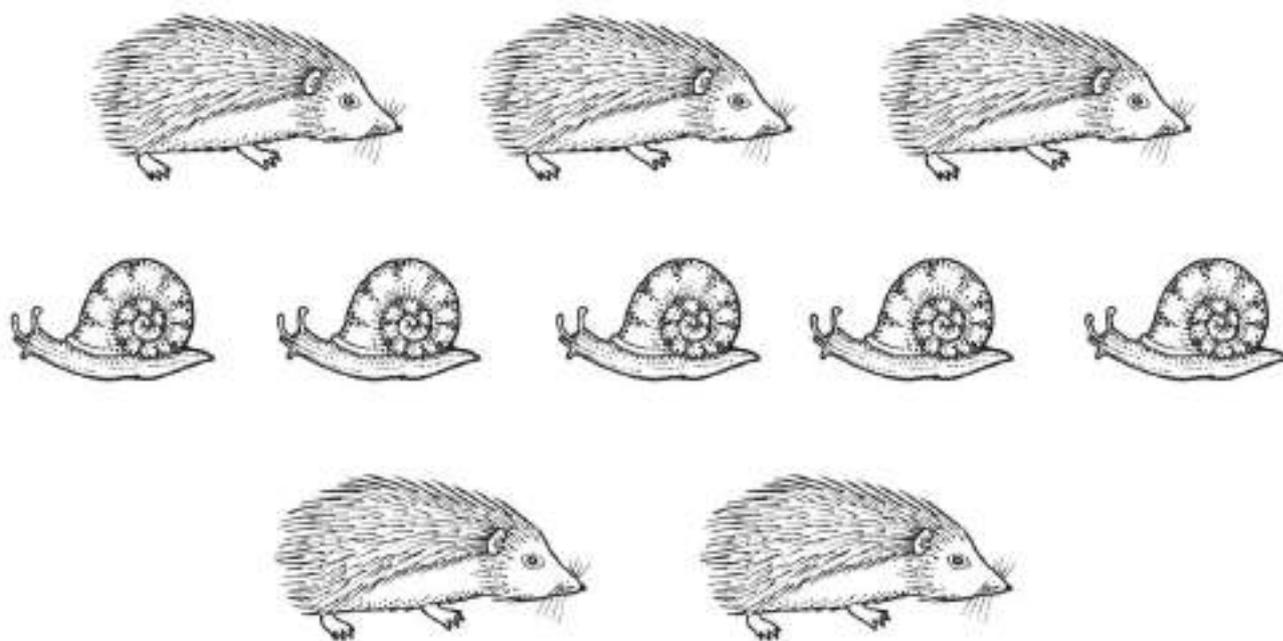
Help the hedgehog find its way to the snail.



Finish drawing the hedgehog.



Lead each hedgehog to its food by drawing a line.

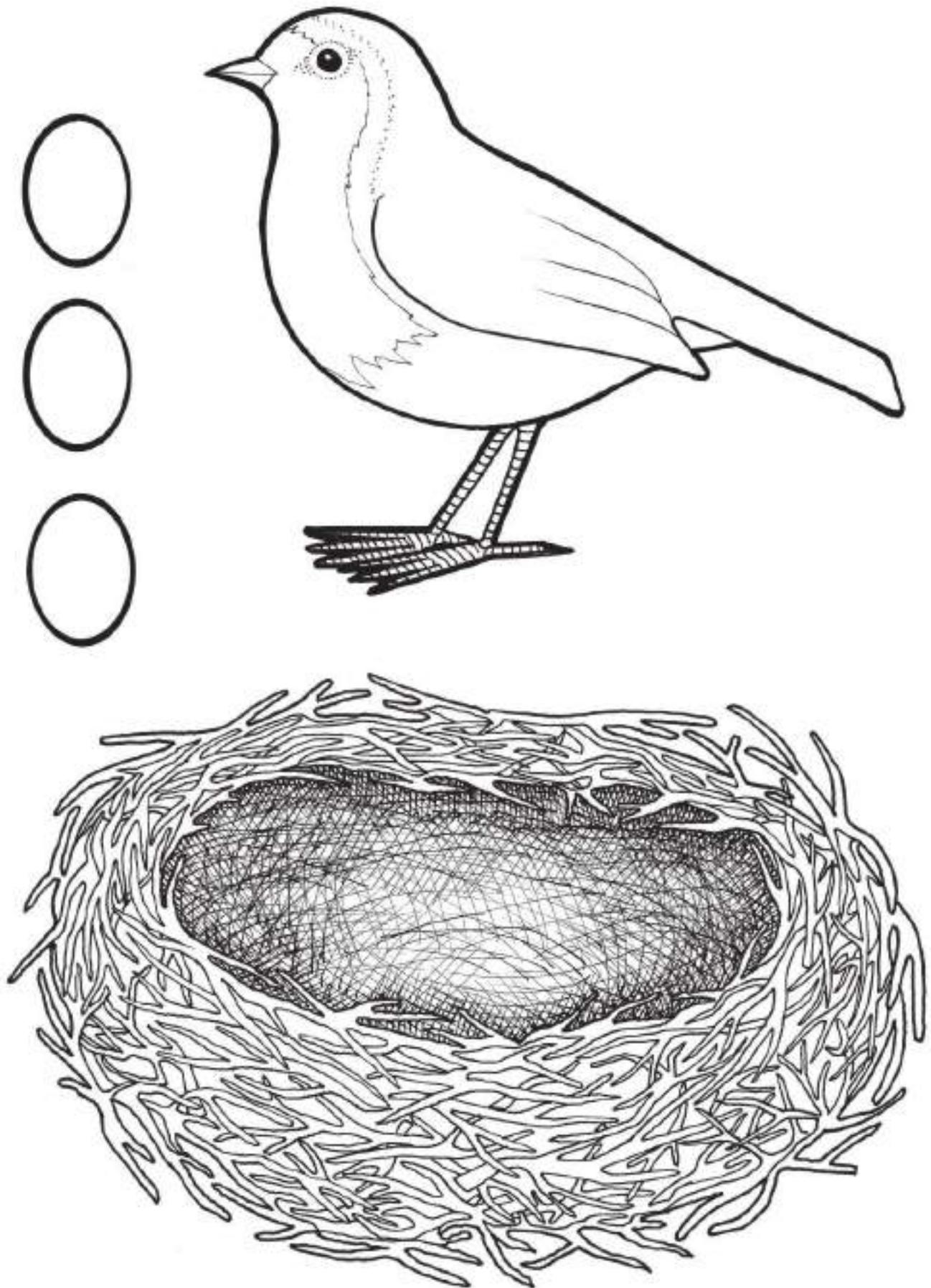


Write 'hedgehog'.

h e d g e h o g

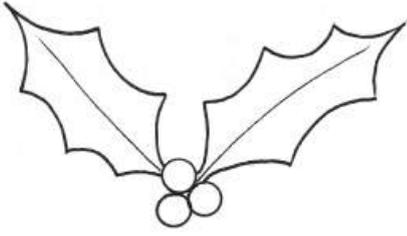
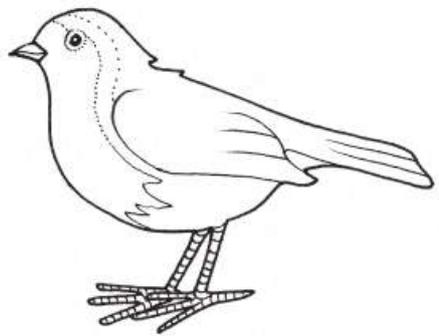
Cut out the robin and the egg and stick them into the nest.

Colour the picture.

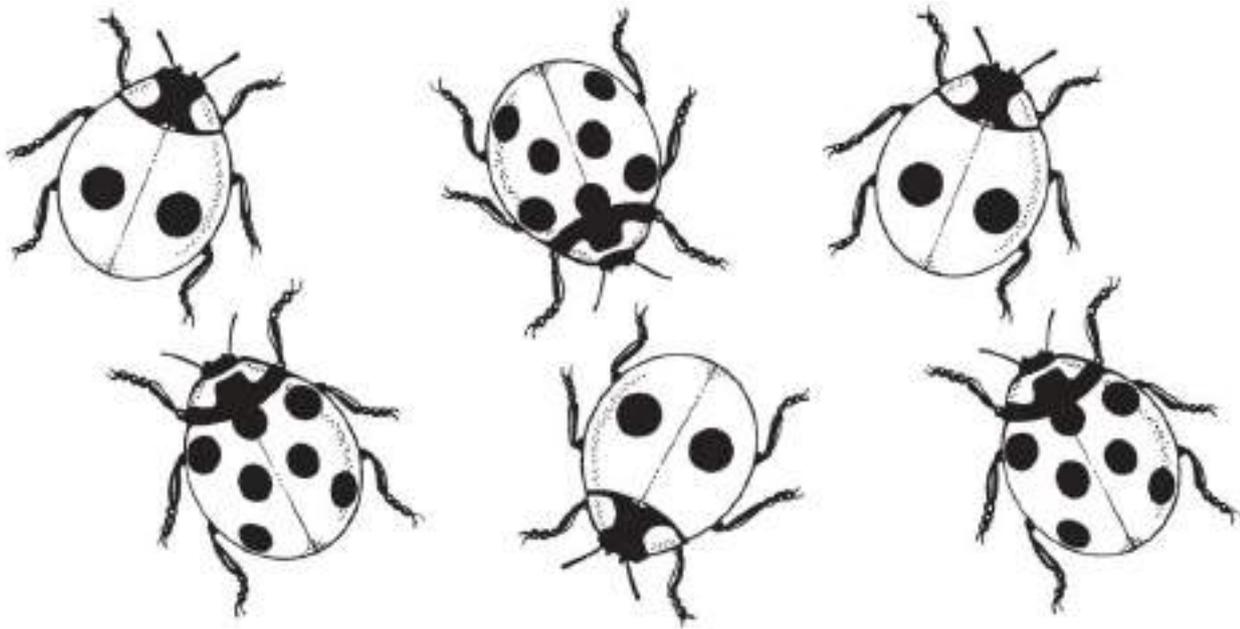


Make a Christmas card. Write 'Happy Christmas' on the front.

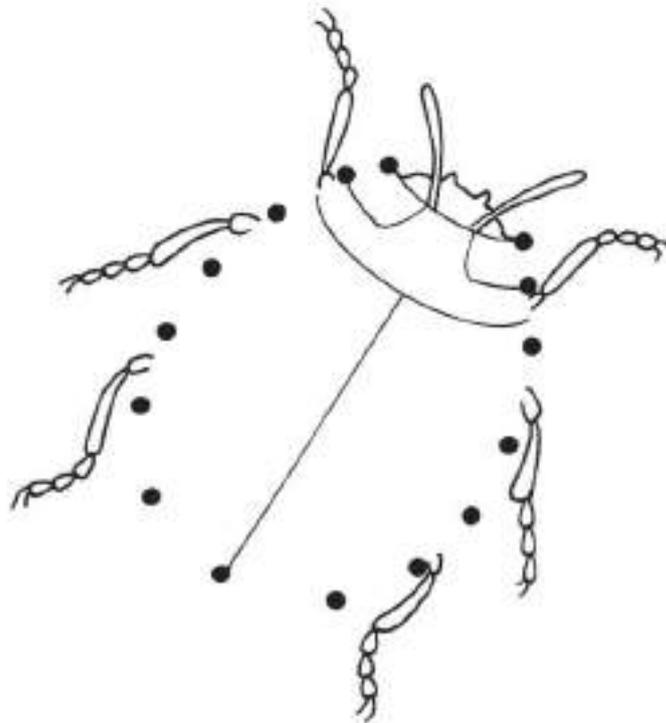
Join the dots to finish drawing the snowman. Colour the card and fold it.

<p>_____ From</p> <p>_____ To</p>	
	<p>Happy Christmas</p> 

Match the ladybirds. Circle all the 7-spot ones.



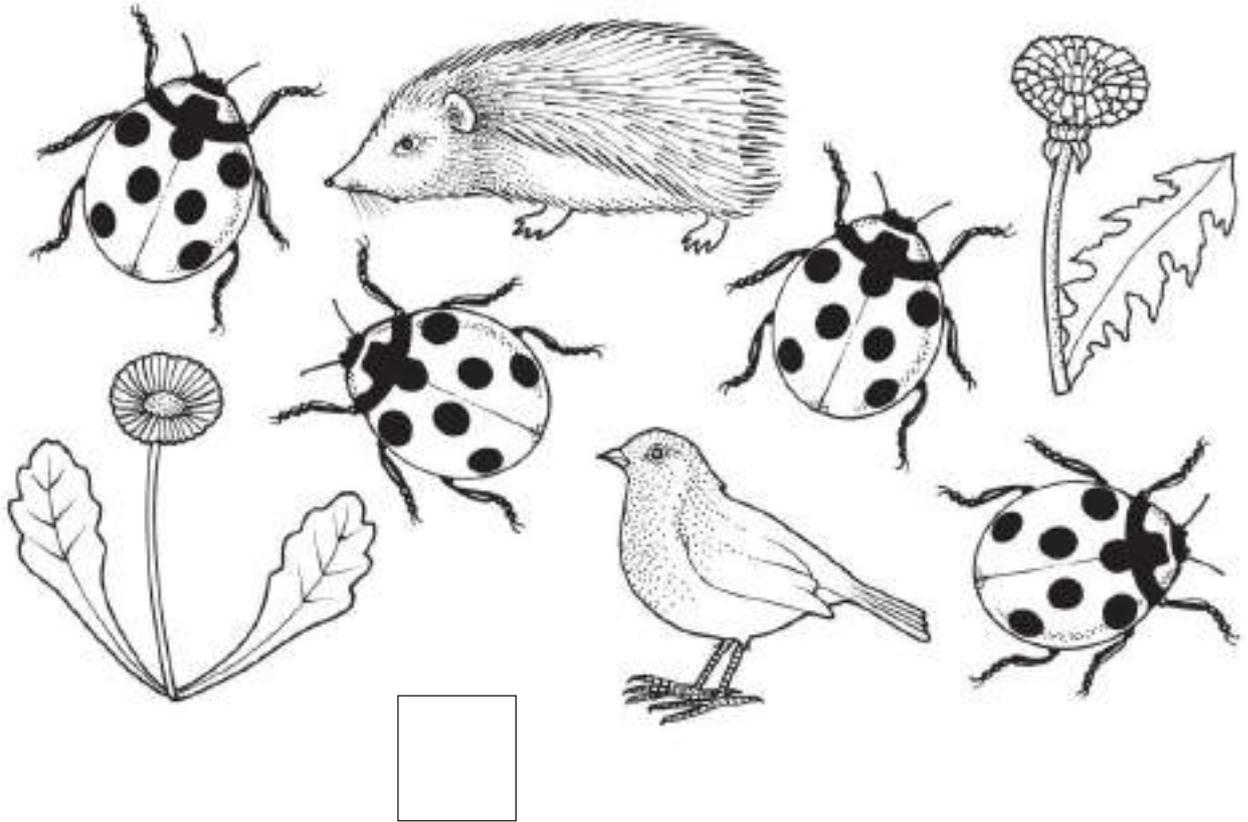
Finish drawing this ladybird by joining the dots. Then cut out the spots and stick them to the ladybird's back.



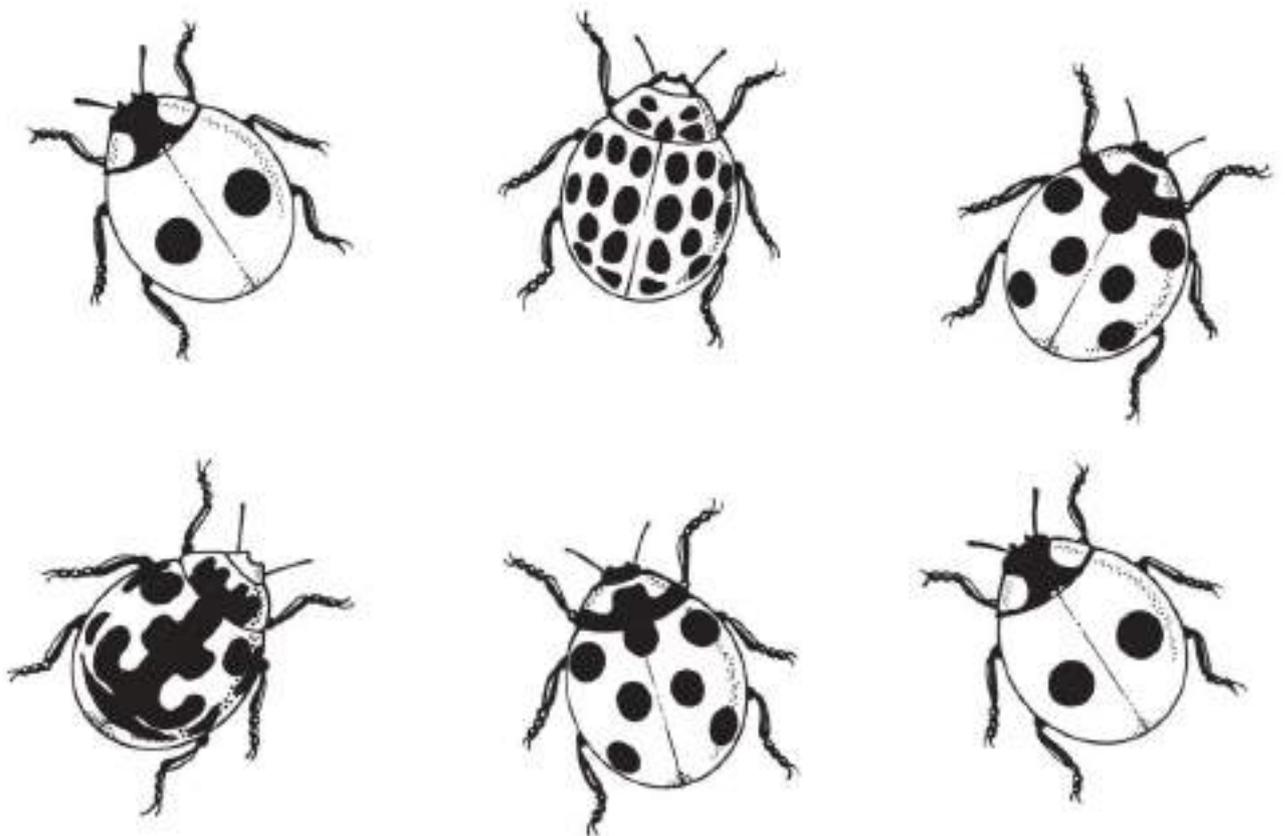
Write 'ladybird'.

ladybird

How many ladybirds?



Colour only the two-spot ladybirds.



Acknowledgements

The *Wild Things at School* series has been developed to help engage primary school children and teachers with nature. The original publication, *Wild Things at School*, a book for primary school teachers has been positively received by teachers all over Ireland and has proved to be a valuable teaching resource. This new publication of *Wild Things Worksheets* is designed to accompany the teacher's book providing material for use in the classroom. Exercises are divided into class groups, from the simplest counting for junior infants to stimulating debates and field studies for the older children.

The exercises have been created and developed by wildlife expert Éanna Ní Lamhna, who has many years experience visiting schools all over Ireland. Christine Warner's beautiful illustrations were specially commissioned to enhance the learning experience on every page. Photographs of all the wild things are included on a DVD along with the worksheets and original teacher's book. The worksheets are available in Irish and are also on the DVD.

This publication is funded by the Heritage Council Heritage Plan fund, Monaghan County Council Heritage Office and Meath County Council Heritage Office.

The publication design is by Connie Scanlon and James Fraher at Bogfire. Proof reading was undertaken by Graham Smith of Wordsmith. Irish translation of the worksheets is by Máire Mhic Thaidhg. Pronsias Ó Donnghaile proofread the Irish version. Photographs are mainly from Eric Dempsey and Shirley Clerkin.

I hope that the production of these worksheets will assist teachers to deliver the *Wild Things* programme. Enormous thanks goes to those who have been involved with this project, particularly Eanna and Christine whose creative partnership has resulted in a fantastic teaching resource. It has been a labour of love for us all; a love for nature that we genuinely wish to pass on to its future custodians.

We wish you luck with the *Wild Things* programme.

Shirley Clerkin
Heritage Officer
Monaghan County Council
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About the Author



Éanna Ní Lamhna

Éanna Ní Lamhna is best known for her environmental expertise as a broadcaster on the radio programme *Mooney Goes Wild*. Her Co. Louth accent gives her one of the most instantly recognisable voices on radio. Her ability to bring her subject to life is legendary and her no-nonsense approach to romantic views about wildlife is well known.

She is first and foremost a botanist with degrees in both botany and ecology from University College Dublin. Her interest in the environment has expanded with her work over the years, to include birds, mammals and in particular creepy-crawlies whose doings hold a particular fascination for her. Her ability to awaken enthusiasm for these creatures in her listeners is exemplified by the remark made to her lately, "Whenever I see a spider I always think of you and put it outside instead of stamping on it."

She began work in 1974 in the Biological Records Centre — in its first incarnation in An Foras Forbartha. She quickly realised that if she was to receive any biological records from the Irish public she would first have to go and teach them about Irish wildlife. So began a career of teachers' courses, radio programmes, lecturing at third level, field trips with Secondary School pupils and most significantly of all, visits to Primary Schools to teach the pupils and indeed the teachers there, about the wildlife around them.

Her publications include *Talking Wild*, *Wild and Wonderful*, *Straight Talking Wild* and *Wild Dublin*. She has just completed a five-year term of office as President of An Taisce and is currently the Vice-President of the Tree Council of Ireland.

About the Illustrator



Christine Warner

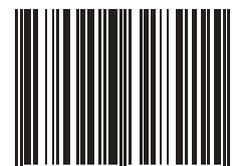
Christine Warner is an illustrator and calligrapher working mostly in the field of education. She provides full colour illustrations, line diagrams and cartoons for textbooks, workbooks and posters. She has worked for many educational publishers and also for Dúchas, Forfás and Trócaire.

While she illustrates material on a wide variety of subjects, she specialises in science, having science degrees from University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin. She particularly enjoys producing wildlife illustrations and cartoons. She has been an environmental activist for many years. Christine may be contacted via email at cwarner1@gmail.com

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