# 'A9imal'

## Key Learning

**To allow pupils to explore and research the variety of animals that have to be considered when designing and developing a large infrastructure project, in this case the A9 dualling.**

## Experiences and Outcomes: First Level

I can select ideas and relevant information, organise these in a logical sequence and use words which will be interesting and/or useful for others.

**LIT 1-06a**

Throughout the writing process, I can check that my writing makes sense.

**LIT 1-23a**

I can present my writing in a way that will make it legible and attractive for my reader, combining words, images and other features.

**LIT 1-24a**

I am learning to use my notes and other types of writing to help me understand information and ideas, explore problems, generate and develop ideas or create new text.

**LIT 1-25a**

I have experienced the energy and excitement of presenting/performing for audiences and being part of an audience for other people's presentations/performances.

**EXA 0-01a / EXA 1-01a / EXA 2-01a**

Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design.

**EXA 0-05a / EXA 1-05a / EXA 2-05a**

**Learning Intentions**

I am learning about the attributes of animals along the A9 corridor in order to create, label and describe a unique, fantasy animal of my choice.

**Success Criteria**

- I can read texts carefully to find out information about specific animals.
- I can select key words to make notes that will support my understanding of the different attributes that some animals may have.
- I can use my notes to create, label and describe a fantasy animal of my choice.
- I can present my animal to others

**Notes for Teachers**

The A9 dualling corridor will share the habitat of some very rare species of plants and animals which the project will have to carefully consider.

**Activity**

- To create a fantasy **A9imal**
- Give it a name
- Label and describe the **A9imal's:**
    a) appearance
    b) preferred habitat
    c) characteristics
- Present their **A9imal** to groups/class as a whole

Pupils will achieve this by choosing particular attributes from a selection of 3 or 4 animals and combining them to create one unique, fantasy **A9imal**.

***NB*** This activity can either be given as a task to individual pupils, or with pairs of pupils collaborating.

**Activity Instructions**

- Pupils are supplied with information about some very rare species of animals which the A9 dualling project will have to carefully consider - PowerPoint.
- The information will contain the animals' unique attributes that pupils can use to create their own fantasy **A9imal**.
- Using a variety of media pupils draw/create their **A9imal** , during this process pupils may refer back to the PowerPoint or the group cards provided.
- Pupils label and write a description of their **A9imal**.
- Pupils present their **A9imal** to their peers

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| | **Red Squirrel's tail:**<br><br>The long tail helps the squirrel to balance and steer when jumping from tree to tree and running along branches, and may keep the animal warm during sleep. |

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| | **Otter's feet:**<br><br>The powerful, webbed feet make the otter a superb swimmer and diver. An otter can swim 7.5 mph, the fastest human can swim 5 mph. |

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| | **Badger's long snout:**<br><br>The long, flexible snout with whiskers helps the badger sniff out worms. It has an excellent sense of smell and can eat well over 200 worms a night. |

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| | **Scottish Wildcat's coat:**<br><br>The thick, camouflaged and regularly cleaned coat has one downy layer to keep in the warm and another outer layer to keep off the rain. The coat is at least 50% thicker than that of a domestic cat. |

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| | **Red Kite's tail:**<br><br>The deeply forked tail of the red kite helps it to steer when in flight. When foraging for food its tail is always moving. |

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| | **Deer's antlers:** Red Deer shown<br><br>The impressive antlers of a male deer signals to other deer how strong he is. They are used as weapons to fight competing males during the mating season. The male deer will shed his antlers annually and re grow new ones for the following year. |

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| | **Capercaillie's song:** The strange click, pop, wheezing and gurgling sounds of the male capercaillie in spring are part of a song and dance display to attract females. The male birds puff out their feathers, show off their fan tails and from time to time jump into the air. |

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| | **Ptarmigan's feathers:** The feathers on the Ptarmigan's legs and feet provide added warmth during winter and give them the ability to move smoothly over the snow, as if they were walking on snowshoes. The Ptarmigan changes the colour of its feathers depending on the season to help it camouflage into the background! |

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| | **Bat's echolocation:**<br>The sound waves that bats send out using their mouth or nose helps them to navigate in the dark and find food. When the sound hits an object an echo comes back. The bat can identify an object by the sound of the echo. They can even tell the size, shape and texture of a tiny insect from its echo. |

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| | **Hairy Wood Ant's spray:**<br><br>The acid that hairy wood ants can spray from their bodies is activated when they feel threatened. It is as a defence mechanism used to scare predators away. |

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| | **Osprey's eyes:**<br><br>The eyesight of an osprey is fantastic. Birds of prey need this superb vision to detect their food. Ospreys will usually spot fish swimming from up to 40 metres away before diving into the water feet first to catch them. |

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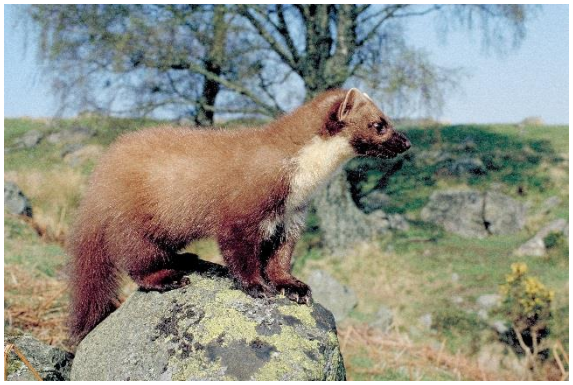
|  | **Pine Marten's claws:**<br><br>The powerful semi retractable claws of the pine marten make them agile and very accomplished climbers. They like to climb or run along tree branches, although they are also relatively quick runners on the ground. |

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| | **Lamprey's mouth:**<br><br>The mouth of the lamprey has a strong power of suction like a vacuum. They attach themselves to other fish by their mouths. The lamprey then bore into the fish with their teeth and suck the fish's blood. Yuck! |

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| | **Golden Eagle's wings:**<br><br>The wings of a Golden Eagle span around 2 meters, making it the UK's second largest bird of prey. Golden Eagles are extremely swift, and can dive upon their prey at speeds of more than 150 miles (241 kilometers) per hour. |

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| | **Freshwater Pearl Mussel's pearl:**<br><br>Scotland has the biggest population of freshwater pearl mussels in the world. Sadly, they are under threat from changes in their environment and illegal collection for their pearls. The finest quality natural pearls have been highly valued as gemstones and objects of beauty for many centuries. |