

DESIGN YOUR OWN

# WILDLY WONDERFUL WETLAND ANIMAL

OUR CREATIVE COMPETITION FOR ANYONE AGED

4 – 12



You can **draw, paint, write a poem, make a collage, or tell us a story** about your wildly wonderful wetland animal.

Let your imagination run wild! It can be a new animal, a mix of animals, or an animal with superpowers!

Ask a grown-up to share your artwork [\[here\]](#) by 1 May 2026



We have fun prizes for both individuals and a whole class.

Prizes include hampers or vouchers to aid environmental learning

For you!

For a class!

Age 4-7

1st - £150

1st - £350

Age 8-12

2nd - £100

2nd - £250

3rd - £50

3rd - £100

More information and full terms and conditions can be found [\[here\]](#). Please ask your parent or guardian for permission to enter.

## WHAT ARE WETLANDS?

Wetlands are places where the land is covered by water for all or part of the year. They include:

Lakes

Rivers

Swamps

Mangroves

Ponds

Marshes

Fens

Coral Reefs

## WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- Wetlands help more animals and plants than any other habitat in the world
  - Wetlands clean water and help reduce flooding
- The world's wetlands do more to reduce climate change than all forests, yet wetlands are disappearing three times faster than forests

Find out more by [watching this video!](#)

## EXAMPLES OF WETLAND ANIMALS AND THEIR ADAPTATIONS



### Otter

- Thick coat of fur to keep warm in cold water
- Webbed feet for powerful swimming
- Can close off their ears and nose when underwater



### Frog

- Tadpoles have gills so they can breathe underwater
  - Adults can breathe through their skin
- Powerful legs for jumping and swimming



### Dragonfly

- Young have gills and can breathe underwater
- Have two pairs of wings which means they can fly in all directions
- Great vision for spotting prey



### Heron

- Long legs keep their bodies above the water
- Dagger-like bill great for catching fish
- Specialised eyes to see fish under the water