

NATURE ACTIVITIES

RAINBOW STORIES BY MARY DAWSON

BADGER SAYS 'NO' TO RUBBISH

It was dusk, the time of day when the light is fading but the stars are not yet lighting the night sky. Badger and his family emerge from the badger sett. The young badgers start to root about for food.

'Oh no' says Big Badger 'oh no not again more rubbish!'

Some people had been to the wood for a picnic and left crisp packets, foil and plastic sandwich wrappers, coke cans, orange peel, bits of food. It was all over the place where badger and his family needed to root for worms. The cubs were rooting in the rubbish and trying to eat it.

'No no its not good to eat' Big Badger told them.

Then they heard a loud scream....Big Badger ran to see what it was.



There was fox with his foot in a can. The visitors had been cooking on fire and that area was still warm and they had left a sharp-edged bean can.

Big Badger manages to pull the tin off fox's leg but it had left a nasty wound.

Badger returned to the young badgers who were playing with the rubbish and one had eaten some of the left food and was being sick.

The Hedge hog family had come into the clearing and the young ones were playing with the rubbish several of then had crisp packets sticking on their spines.

'Oh no' said Badger 'not again!'

Just then the bats flew into the clearing. But they were flying all over the place

they seemed dizzy. Their echo location, needed for them to catch moths to eat was not working because there were plastic balloons hang in the trees. They were confusing the bats.

'Oh no' said Badger 'not again.'

Fortunately there was a call from the owl who flew in to the clearing. He knew what to do. He pecked each balloon so it floated down to the ground. So the bats could feed.

But the young badgers and hedge hogs were now trying to eat the balloons.

'Oh no don't eat that' said Big Badger.

The night sky was getting light and it was time for the nocturnal animals to go to their homes again.

The badgers and hedge hogs were hungry as they had not had any time to find food!

Big Badger settled down to sleep and was feeling very cross. Later that day he woke to hear happy children's voices.

Oh no' he said 'not again'

But then he heard a human say,

'Come on children we need to clear up this mess.'

It was the children who came to the wood to play and they never left rubbish. In fact they always cleared up any rubbish that others left.

Badger soon went back to sleep knowing that the wood would be clear of rubbish so he and his family could feed well and be safe in the wood the next night.

'No rubbish in our wood' said Big Badger as he snuggles down to sleep.







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RESOURCES

sussexmothgroup.org.uk Information about local species as well as Sussex Moth Group and local Hastings branch events

rx-wildlife.squarespace.com Events and wildlife sightings from **Dungeness to Hastings**

mothscount.org Lots of information about moths

nationalmothnight.info An annual national counting scheme

ukmoths.org.uk

Help identify British moths

hantsmoths.org.uk

Great site to help identify moths and a handy 'What's flying now guide which lists 100 most common moths for any week of the year

ukleps.org

Dedicated to identification of eggs, larva and pupa of many British moths and butterflies

BUTTERFLIES butterfly-conservation.org

buglife.org.uk

BEES

bumblebeeconservation.org beewalk.org.uk

BATS bats.org.uk

LADYBIRDS ladybird-survey.org **DRAGONFLIES** british-dragonflies.org.uk **AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES** arc-trust.org

GENERAL SITES

rspb.org.uk

wildlifetrusts.org

gov.uk/government/organisations/ natural-england

Government's adviser for the natural environment in England. Information and policies

plantlife.org.uk

British conservation charity working nationally and internationally to save threatened wild flowers, plants and fungi

woodlandtrust.org.uk

rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/litter Raising awareness of how littering and rubbish affects animals

LOCAL SITES

sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/rye harbour Forest School, Nature Tots, bird watching, beach cleans etc

rspca.org.uk/mallydams

educationfuturestrust.org Forest and beach school

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES & ACTIVITIES

muddyfaces.co.uk Resources for children

field-studies-council.org

Resource of environmental field studies papers available as pdf downloads. Aimed at non-specialists

rbkc.gov.uk/subsites/wildlife.aspx The Ecology Centre at Holland Park runs a series of events, activities. educational visits and workshops for schools

woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/ Discover exciting wildlife activities to help kids explore nature!

outdoorstudiosarts.com

Artist-led workshops for creative experiential learning that explores environments, landscape, and place

GARDENING ADVICE

rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/.../plants-for-pollinators Pollinator advice and downloadable lists from Royal Horticultural Society gardenersworld.com

Practical gardening advice on what to do in your garden and greenhouse

SPOTTER GUIDES, IDENTIFICATION SHEETS & APPS

Helping you to spot & identify wildlife and nature

wildlifewatch.org.uk/spotting-sheets

nationaltrust.org.uk/lists/summer-wildlife-spotter-guides

rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/identify-a-bird/

plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wild-plants-nature/spotter-sheets

reading.ac.uk/Herbarium/KiteSite/hrb-KSsppidguides.aspx

opalexplorenature.org/identification

nhm.ac.uk/take-part/identify-nature/

buglife.org.uk/bugs-and-habitats/bug-identifier

ispotnature.org/

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