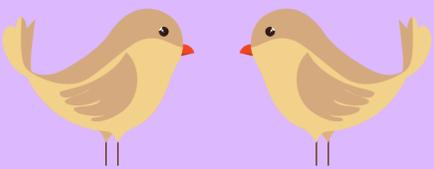


# A walk on the wild side



## Nature Day at home

### Have a Nighttime Nature Adventure



all  
ages

Experience a whole other world of nature by trying out some nature activities at night.

Once the sun goes down and all the creatures you normally see in the day go to bed, there are all other kinds of insects and animals who are nocturnal and this is the time they wake up and start about their "day"

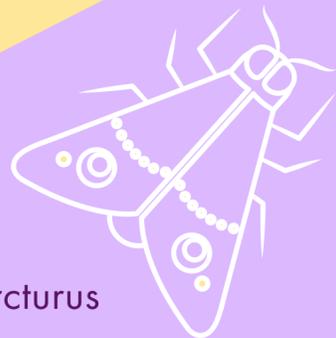


Torches at the ready! Why not set off (with an adult) on a night nature walk. What will you see? Look carefully and you might spot moths or bats in the sky. If you are quiet you might even see a fox or hedgehog! What can you smell- lots of flowers have perfume that smells stronger at night.

Look up and if it's a clear night you will be able to see stars.

Here are a few star constellations you might see.

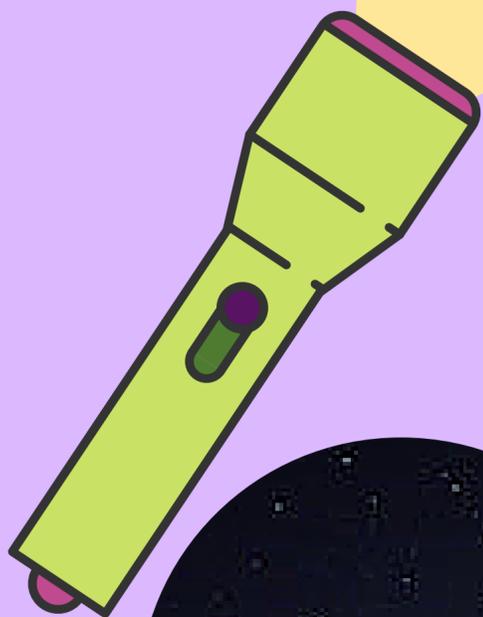
**Remember to take special care if you are crossing any roads as drivers will not be able to see you.**



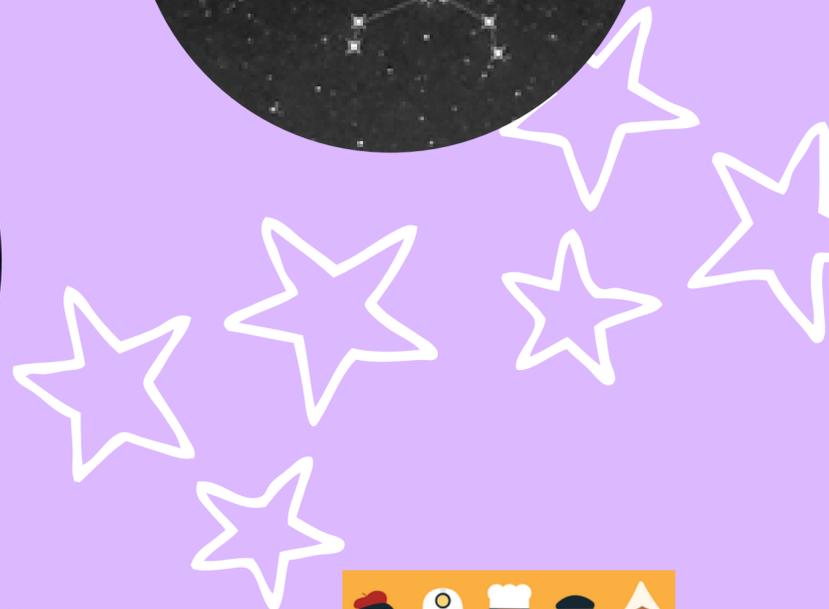
Bootes and Arcturus



The Plough looks like a giant saucepan in the sky



Like a cup or an upturned letter 'C', Corona Borealis is easy to spot



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If you stand quietly in your garden or another outside space at dusk, you might be lucky enough to spot bats flying about hunting for moths and insects for their breakfast.

They find their food by make shouting sounds. The returning echoes give the bats information about anything that is ahead of them, including the size and shape of an insect and which way it is going. This system of finding prey is called echolocation - locating things by their echoes.

You can see this in action by taking a very small stone and as the bat flies past, throw the stone up. The bat will change direction to investigate further. Bats are very clever and know not to eat the stones, but take care not to throw a stone towards people or windows.



Why not see what other night time visitors you get in your garden by making a moth trap?



Hang some white fabric or a tablecloth in your garden and light the back with a desk lamp.



As it gets darker, the white fabric will illuminate.



If you wait patiently, or go away and come back, moths and other insects will be attracted by the light and settle on the cloth.