

EDUCATION

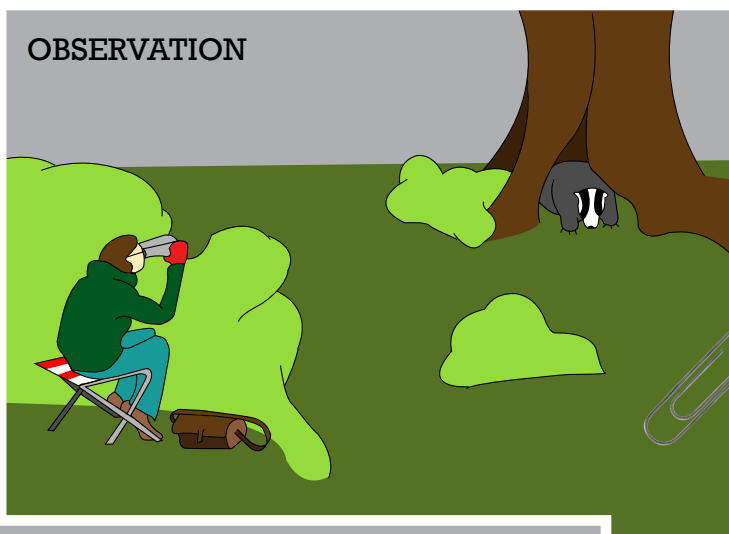
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YOU WILL NEED

- Warm dark clothes
 - A torch covered with red cellophane (animals are less sensitive to red light)
 - Food and warm drink
 - A notebook and pencil
1. In the daytime use tracks and signs to locate the badger's sett. Badgers live in deep tunnels which they dig among trees. They use grass or bracken for bedding. A sett in use may have bedding remains outside the main entrance. If you are not sure whether a sett is still lived in, place a few twigs across the entrance and return the next day to see if they have been pushed away.
 2. Plan viewpoints for when you return at night. Badgers and other mammals have a very strong sense of smell, so always go downwind of them. Choose a number of viewpoints in the day so you can use whichever is downwind when you return in the night. In a wood the safest place is off the ground. If you are about 3 metres up, your scent should be carried over the animal's head.
 3. Take note of any fallen trees or holes in the daytime which you might not see in the dark.
 4. Badgers usually come out after dusk and go off for several hours in search of food. Be in your viewpoint half an hour before sunset.
 5. Once in position move quietly and avoid talking.
 6. Be patient, wait and watch and you may see the animals emerging for their evening's activities.
 7. Between February and March you may see badger cubs.

NEVER INTERFERE WITH THE ANIMALS OR STOP THEM RETURNING TO THEIR HOME.

OBSERVATION



BADGER



BADGER

GOOD BOOKS

"Colins Guide to Animal Tracks and Signs" by P. Bang (pub. Colins)

"Watching Wildlife" by D. Stephens (pub. Colins)

"An Irish Beast Book" by J. Fairley (pub. Blackstaff)



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