



for birds
for people
for ever

Where in the world?

You will need

A large world map or globe. You can download and print out the blank migration route map from this page or display it using an interactive whiteboard.

Activity

Plot (with felt tip pen, wool and drawing pins, or your interactive whiteboard) the migration routes of several different species – to include summer and winter migrants. Use the link on this page to download a map and fill in the routes. Or use your interactive whiteboard.

You should aim to plot migration routes of birds that move to escape harsh winter conditions (eg arctic terns, swans and geese) and those who move to find plentiful summer food in mild north European summers to help them raise their young (eg ospreys and swallows).

You can follow the routes of three migrants (swallows, ospreys and arctic terns) on the migration route map (using the link on this page).

- **Discuss the reasons that birds migrate.** If you download the blank map and copy one for each child, they can then choose their own species and draw a picture of each one next to the route it takes.
- **Discuss the dangers and risks taken by these birds to complete their journeys and make a list.** Use the information on this website to help inform the discussion. Children can research independently, or use the interactive whiteboard to share information.
- **Discuss how many of these dangers are caused by human activities?**
- **Download the wader migration game using the link on this page.**
- **Discuss the outcomes of the game.** How many survived? How many chicks were raised?

- **Discuss how humans can help migratory birds** (habitat protection; legislation; refrain from damaging behaviour eg trapping and hunting).
- **Discuss why it is a good idea to help keep healthy populations of birds?** Birds as an indicator of healthy environments; birds enriching human lives; migration as one aspect of ecosystems that underpin all life on earth.

Curriculum links

KS 2 Science. Life processes and living things (especially Living things in their environment)

KS 3 Science. Living things in their environment (especially Adaptation and competition)

KS2 Geography. Knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development

KS 3 Geography. Knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development