

Be a nature detective



Wild animals can often be incredibly difficult to see. They may come out at night. Or they may be so shy of us that they stay out of our sight. But we can find evidence of where they've been and what they've been doing. Here are some of the things to look out for.

Slime trail



Can you follow the silvery trail?
Do you think it was made by a slug or a snail?

Mole hills



Are they loose and fresh, or old and dry? Where might the mole be now?

Hair caught in a barbed wire fence



An animal squeezed through here. Can you guess what it was?

Empty egg shell



Did it hatch naturally, or has it been eaten?

Feathers



More than one feather looks suspicious. Was the bird eaten by a predator?

Poo



You can learn a lot from animal poo.

Did you know hedgehog poo is shiny because it's full of beetle shells? Or that fox poo is shaped like a corkscrew? (gross fact – tell your friends!)

... in spring and summer

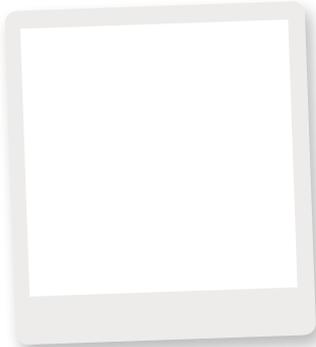
Can you find other signs and clues?



The nature detective's evidence sheet



Write down the **signs and clues** that will help you work out what has happened.
Use a photo or drawing to show what you have seen.



Object found

Date and time

Where? (In a wood? On a path?
In the middle of a field?)

Clues at the scene

What do you
think happened?



Object found

Date and time

Where? (In a wood? On a path?
In the middle of a field?)

Clues at the scene

What do you
think happened?



Object found *Animal hair*

Date and time *12th July, 10.30am*

Where?

*Low down on barbed wire in field.
Animal path goes under the fence here.*

Clues at the
scene

Hair is black and white.

you

I think a badger went through here.

