

# Foundation N2K

## What Happens at Night?

Autumn 2



### Useful links

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011n1lx>- information on nocturnal animals.

[https://kids.kiddle.co/Nocturnal\\_animals](https://kids.kiddle.co/Nocturnal_animals)-nocturnal animal facts and images.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o\\_bkf6ZBeDE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_bkf6ZBeDE) - nocturnal animal facts.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reference/nocturnal-animals-explained/>- interesting information about nocturnal animals

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p019yjp8>- introduction to light sources

### Enquiry Questions

What does nocturnal mean?  
What does diurnal mean?  
Can you name any nocturnal animals?  
Can you name any diurnal animals?  
Can you think of natural sources of light?  
Can you think of man-made or artificial sources of light?  
How have some animals evolved so they can function in the dark?

### Key Facts

- Nocturnal animals have evolved so they can see and hear in the dark. E.g. they have bigger eyes and better hearing.
- Owl eyes are so big that they can't move in the socket, but their wide pupils help them collect more light.
- Bats 'see' in the dark using a special skill called echolocation.
- The aye-aye, a type of lemur, is the world's largest nocturnal primate.

### Key Vocabulary

Light - is a form of energy that enables us to see all the things around us.

Dark - a place where little or no light can be seen.

Nocturnal - active at night.

Diurnal - active in the daytime.

Natural light - the light from the sun.

Man-made light - light made by humans.

Adapt - modifies or changes to suit its environment/ where it lives.

Glow - a steady radiance of light or heat.

Morning - the period of time between midnight and noon, especially from sunrise to noon.

Evening - the period of time at the end of the day, usually from about 6 p.m. to bedtime.

### Why don't you...

1. Draw a picture of a nocturnal animal?
2. Look at the night sky? What do you see?
3. Read a story under torch light - maybe in a den or under your covers in bed?



### Understanding The world- The Natural World

Children at the expected level of development will: Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants; - Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class; - Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

