

Explore & Learn

Make a Nature Gallery Friend

Take our quiz to find out which of the fantastic Nature Gallery animals would be the perfect friend for you, and learn a bit more about how you can be a friend to them at the same time – be sure to visit them at Derby Museums when you can!

1. How would you describe yourself?

- A) Gentle
- B) Smart
- C) Funny
- D) Quirky

4. Which alternative name for your friend do you find the most intriguing?

- A) Urchins
- B) Ferny Hoolet
- C) Night Parrot
- D) Duckbill

2. What do you like to do in your free time?

- A) Something relaxing, like sleeping or reading
- B) Go out and about exploring
- C) Something creative, like singing or dancing
- D) Something active, like swimming or running

Which of these places would you like to explore?

- A) Tiny habitats in my local area and the UK
- B) The skies
- C) The other side of the world – New Zealand
- D) Australia and Tasmania (on land and underwater!)

3. Which quality would you most like your new friend to have?

- A) Resourceful
- B) Observant
- C) Playful
- D) Unique

Have you made a note of your answers?

Take a look on the next page to find out which animal from the Nature Gallery is the friend for you!

Explore & Learn

Make a Nature Gallery Friend

If you answered mostly **A**: the small but mighty **Hedgehog**



These nocturnal, often noisy, creatures are tough, armed with about 5000 spines to protect them from predators. They hibernate in the winter, but you might spot them in warmer months in woodlands and hedgerows, as well as parks and gardens.

Life can be hard for Hedgehogs, from the risk of busy roads to struggling to find their prey (slugs, worms and insects) because of pesticides. Be a friend to them and make a safe hibernation habitat for them by placing some dry leaves or straw under a sheltered area like a log pile or hedge in winter.

If you answered mostly **B**: the clever **Tawny Owl**



You may be more familiar with owls from books and films than in real life because Tawny Owls are tiny and hard to spot, only coming out at night! But, you might have heard their distinctive 'twit twoo'. Did you know this sound is actually a pair of birds calling to each other?

Tawny Owls are in slow decline, but you can help them by providing a safe place where they will feel comfortable nesting and breeding. Build a nest box, placing it at least 3 metres off the ground, out of direct sun or winds and with enough shelter against heavy rain.

Explore & Learn

Make a Nature Gallery Friend

If you answered mostly **C**: the quirky **Kakapo**



From the Maori words for 'night' and 'parrot', the Kakapo is the world's only nocturnal, flightless and herbivorous parrot. It is native to New Zealand, and males have a distinctive call known as 'booming', which is a low frequency that can be heard up to 400m away on flat ground!

Although the Kakapo can live for up to 80 years, they are critically endangered. Be a friend to them by learning more about this wonderful bird and spreading the word to raise awareness of them!

If you answered mostly **D**: the unique **Platypus**



With their ability to lay eggs, duck-bills, otter-feet, furry hide, and beaver-tails, you can understand why lots of people thought platypuses weren't a real animal when they were first brought back to Europe in 1798! However, these features are what make platypuses excellent underwater swimmers.

Platypuses need freshwater to survive, so habitat destruction and water pollution put them at risk. It's possible to sponsor platypuses to help keep them safe on nature reserves.