



Nature Tots

At home

Snails

This is a suggested list of learning activities that you can do at home, all linked to a specific local wildlife theme. The plan has been created with under fives in mind but may be appropriate for other ages.

Book suggestion

Norman the Slug with the Silly Shell by Sue Hendra

This funny book about a slug who wants his own shell, is a giggling read about a slug who wants to be a snail. If you don't have the book you can watch and hear it read aloud [here](#).

Find a snail or slug

Look under rocks, on walls, inside empty plant pots, behind sheds and garages, to see if you can find snails in your garden. Look at the spiral shape of the shell, talk about the snail's 'home' and watch how they move. Remember to put them back where you found them when you've finished!





Snail racing

A piece of string

Make a small circle on the ground, this could be a piece of string looped round. Place any snails you find in the circle and see which one leaves the circle first. Remember they won't like hot dry ground, so do this on grass if you can. Again remember to put them back where you found them when you've finished.

Make a snail craft

Paper, scissors, crayons, pencils or pens

Cut a leaf shape from a piece of paper and colour it green. Cut a strip of paper 3-4cm wide and at least 25cm long. At one end draw or cut antennae and eyes, and then tightly roll the paper from the other end. Allow the paper to uncurl a little to make the spiral and sit your snail on his leaf! Photo overleaf.

Make your own antennae

*Pipe cleaners, headband or
anything you can create into a headband*

Curl two pipe cleaners together and make them extra-long and curly at the end, attach to the headband and your child can pretend to be a snail. Have you got an old cardboard box to make into a shell?



Nature Tots at Home

Snails cont.

Gloucestershire
Wildlife Trust



More information

[Find out more about snails and slugs in Gloucestershire here.](#)

Fact: a snail has just one 'foot' - it is a muscle that allows it to move slowly across the ground. The foot gives out slime which helps the snail to move along the ground, leaving a trail behind.

Spotter sheets

See what types of snails you have in your garden and download a spotters guide to snails [here](#).

Links to the Early Year Foundation Stage Framework

- Communication and Language – Understanding the World

