



Nature Tots

At home

Squirrels

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

The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin by Beatrix Potter

This is a classic story all about a squirrel. If you don't have the book you can watch and hear it read aloud [here](#).

Play Hide and Squeak

A variation of the traditional game, encourage your tots to hide either inside or in the garden, and then go looking for them. When you get near to them they are allowed to squeak like a squirrel until you find them.





Make a squirrel puppet

Loo roll tube, paper or card, crayons/paint, sellotape/glue

Take your loo roll tube and bend the top down, so that you have a dent in the middle and two 'ears' - one on either side. Add eyes and a nose with crayon or pen, and encourage your little one to colour or paint the rest of the tube either a russet red or a grey colour, let the paint dry. Next using card or paper cut out a 'tail', and curl the end over by rolling it round a pencil. Using glue or sellotape, stick the bottom half of the tail to the bottom half of the loo roll - make sure the tail is curled outward to the top! See photo overleaf.

Move like a squirrel?

Can you move like a squirrel? [Watch this clip](#) and see how they scamper, then stop to look around, then scamper some more. Try this in your garden, can you be a squirrel? Remember to shake your bushy tail!

Make a squirrel puzzle

Print off a picture of a squirrel, cut it up into large puzzle-shaped pieces and see if you can put it back together again!





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Squirrels cont.



More information

Fact: squirrels 'talk' to each other through various noises and they use their tails as a signalling device - twitching it when uneasy to alert other squirrels of potential danger.

Spotter guides

[Download a guide to nuts here and see if you can find evidence to squirrels near you.](#)

Links to the Early Year Foundation Stage Framework

- Communication and Language – Understanding the World

