

BIODIVERSITY

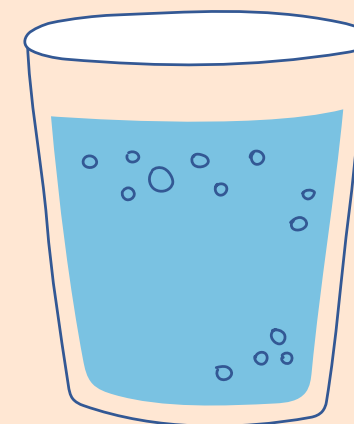
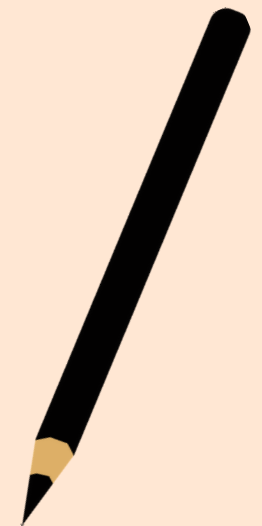
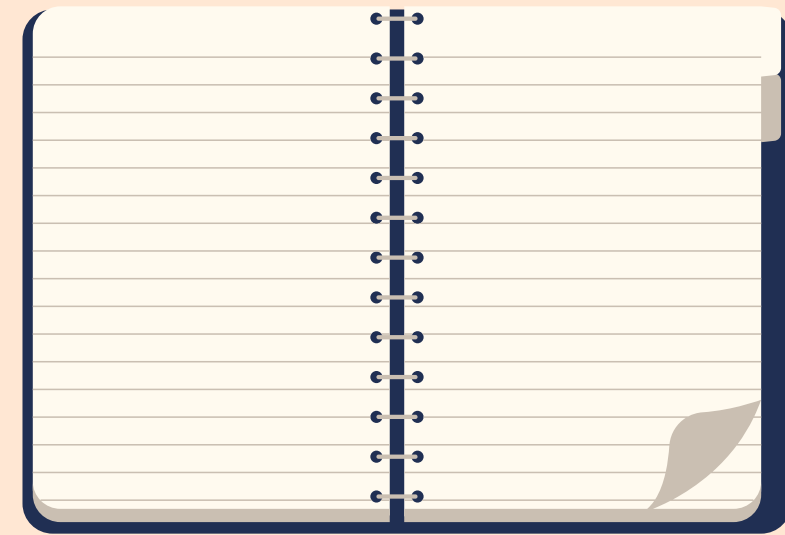
with Alex





Make sure you have the following before we start:

Notebook, pen or pencil and a glass of water or a drink!



Biodiversity is all around us . It includes all living things, the differences among them and between all the different environments they live in.



What is BIODIVERSITY?



60 seconds

Activity Time

Go and grab something...

That represents biodiversity to you



Ireland's biodiversity

Ireland's biodiversity is unique and makes Ireland special. It also contributes at least €2.6 billion each year to the Irish economy through the goods and services it gives us such as purifying our air, controlling insects pests, and providing wood, textiles, and food.

31,000 species

Insects
11,422

Fish
592

Birds
457

Marine Mammals
26

Land Mammals
25

Air Mammals
9

Amphibians & Reptiles
6



Name that...



Insert the answers into the chat



1



2

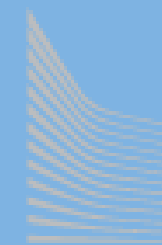
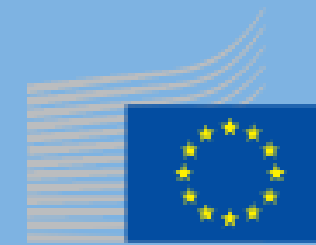


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4

IRELAND HAS 59 PROTECTED HABITATS



European
Commission

Sandbanks

Estuaries

Tidal mudflats

Lagoons*

Large shallow inlets and bays

Reefs

Drift lines

Perennial vegetation of stony banks

Sea cliffs

Salicornia mud

Atlantic salt meadows

Mediterranean salt meadows

Halophilous scrub

Embryonic shifting dunes

Marram dunes (white dunes)

Fixed dunes (grey dunes)*

Decalcified empetrum dunes*

Decalcified dune heath*

Dunes with creeping willow

Dune slack

Machair*

Oligotrophic soft water lakes

Soft water lakes with base rich influences

Hard water lakes

Natural eutrophic lakes

Dystrophic lakes

Turloughs*

Floating river vegetation

Chenopodium rubri

Wet heath

Dry heaths

Alpine and subalpine heath

Juniper scrub

Calaminarian grassland

Orchid-rich calcareous grassland*

Species-rich nardus upland grassland*

Molinia meadows

Hydrophilous tall herb

Lowland hay meadows

Raised bog (active)*

Degraded raised bogs

Blanket bog (active)*

Transition mires

Rhynchosporion depressions

Cladium fen*

Petrifying springs*

Alkaline fens

Siliceous scree

Eutric scree

Calcareous rocky slopes

Siliceous rocky slopes

Limestone pavement*

Caves

Sea caves

Old oak woodlands

Bog woodland*

Residual alluvial forests*

Taxus baccata woods*



european
eel



orange-tip
butterfly



banded demoiselle

Wetlands

The Irish climate is dominated by moist warm air moving in from the Atlantic and falling as rain. Wetlands come in many forms, rivers, lakes, blanket bog, freshwater wetlands and spring-fed temporary lakes, called turloughs that are unique to Ireland.



marsh
marigold



common
frog



daubenton's bat



river otter



kingfisher





great spotted
woodpecker



wood sorrel



ivy

Woodland

It is hard to believe that Ireland was fully covered in woodland in the past. There is a need to establish new native woodlands to join up the existing habitat areas and expand the area of natural woodland cover. Native trees of our woodlands include sessile oak, birch, rowan, ash, hazel and alder. Some of Ireland's most iconic species are dependent on woodlands.

silver-washed
fritillary



pine marten



woodcock



bluebells



sessile oak





small
tortoiseshell
butterfly



hawthorn
shieldbug



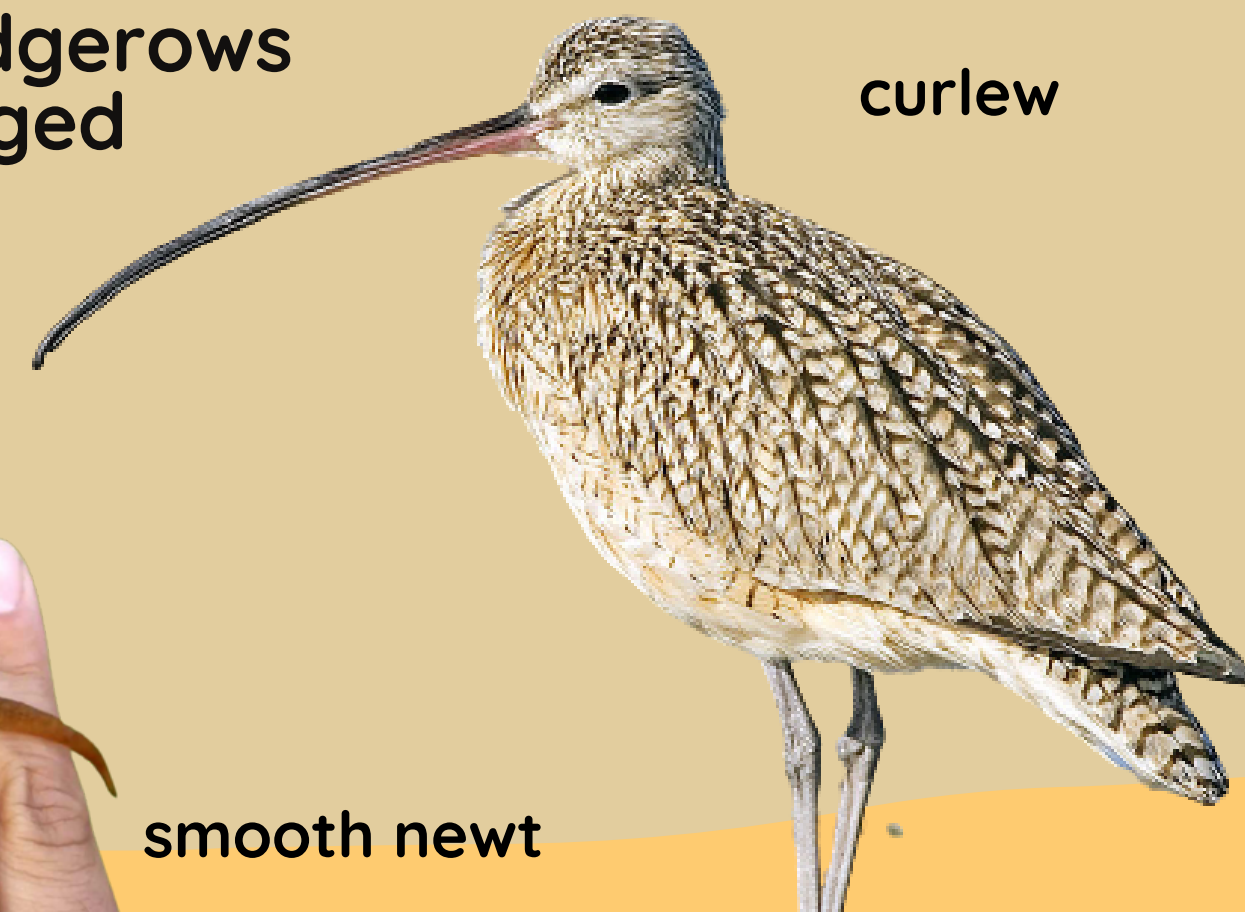
buzzard

Farmland

There are more livestock in Ireland than people, totalling just under 6 million. As everyone knows, agriculture is the backbone of a vibrant rural economy and contributes hugely to economic development. Farmland is characterised by a rich network of hedgerows and drystone walls surrounding managed fields of grassland and other crops.



Irish hare



curlew



7-spot ladybird



smooth newt



3 mins

Activity Time!

Become a biodiversity expert!

- Grab your notebook and pencil.
- Look outside the window, go to your garden or outside your house
- Write down if you hear any birds, see any plants, insects or other animals

N.B. If you don't know the official names, describe what it looks like, the colour, size, shape etc.



Global biodiversity

Global inequality and social justice issues make it difficult to protect biodiversity across the globe.

8.7 million estimated species

**Each
Day**

40-50 species
discovered

50-150 species
go extinct



Global keystone species

EXHIBIT 1

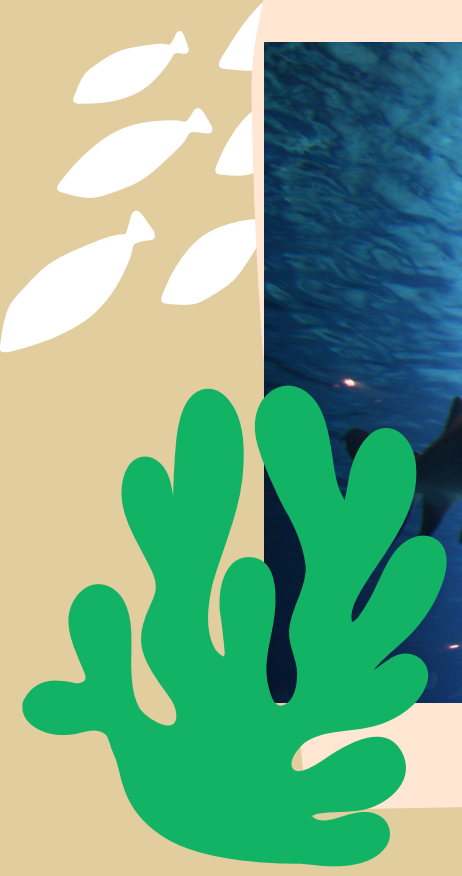


EXHIBIT 2



EXHIBIT 3





Oceans

Oceans contain the greatest diversity of life on Earth. From the freezing polar regions to the warm waters of the tropics. Humans rely on the oceans for their important natural resources.

Fishing is the principal livelihood for over 200 million people and provides the main source of protein for more than a billion





Forests

Forests are essential for life on earth. They are home to 80% of the world's biodiversity on land. 300 million people worldwide live in forests and 1.6 billion depend on them for their livelihoods. Forests also play a critical role in mitigating climate change because they act as a carbon sink—soaking up carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases

Issues impacting biodiversity

Deforestation
Over-exploitation of resources
Pollution and litter
Invasive species
Pesticide use and monoculture
Climate change



Solutions to biodiversity issues

Reforestation of native trees
Plant based and organic lifestyles
Renewable energy
Regenerative and marine agriculture
Wildlife conservation projects



GIVING BIODIVER SITY A HELPING HAND:



- Accept and cherish nature "villains" like waterlogged land and seagulls
- Install bat and swift boxes
- Be SUSTAINABLE in your lifestyle and reduce over-consumption
- Upcycle and reuse materials
- Get rid of rubbish the right way
- Start social media campaigns
- Use your voice and get involved with politics
- Support biodiversity projects through petitions and Tidy Towns
- Represent justice and equality
- Remember your actions matter

GARDEN ING FOR BIODIV ERSITY

- Don't mow and allow wildflowers to grow
- Plant pollinator friendly plants
- Keep an untidy corner with nettles, compost and bramble
- Add a log pile and a sand pit
- Plant native trees
- Carry out local projects e.g. clean ups, pollinator friendly gardens or growing your own food
- Provide water, food and shelter to wildlife
- If possible, create entry/exit gates for hedgehogs, foxes etc
- Create a wetland area e.g. pond or bog
- Remember a few people doing any of these actions can have a huge local impact





MY

PERSONAL

JOURNEY

MY BACKGROUND



*ECO-UNESCO Young
Environmentalist Awards*



*Environmental Science at Trinity
College Dublin*

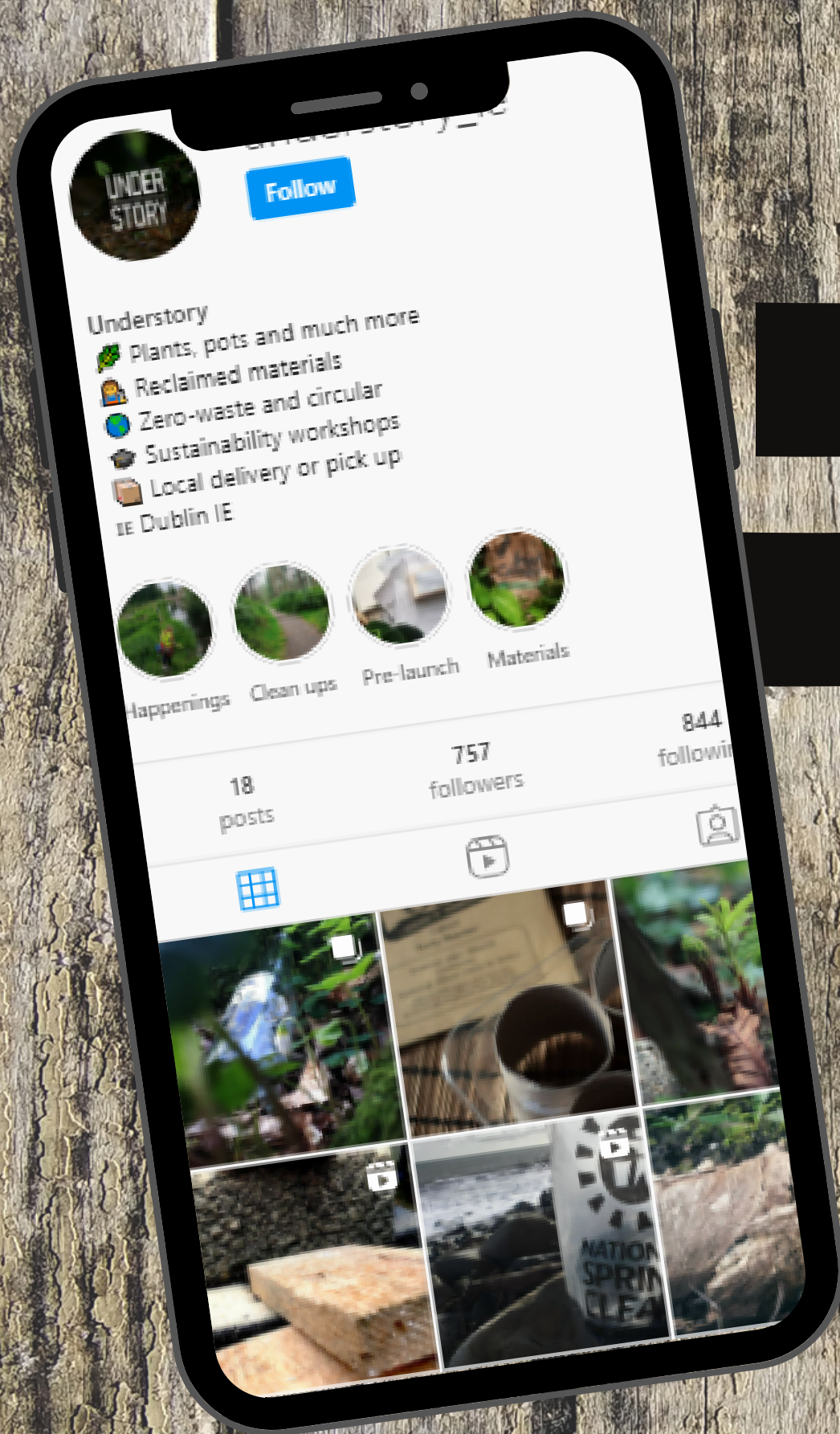


Sustainability at Accenture



WAYS IN WHICH I REDUCE MY IMPACT





ABOUT UNDERSTORY



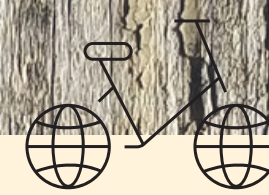




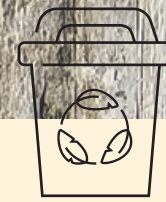
We collect glass, wood and paper before it enters the landfill and extend it's lifecycle



We support local charity shops by buying from them



We deliver by bike when the weather allows!



We carry out frequent clean ups



We create biodiversity initiatives and encourage people to appreciate wildlife around them



We help biodiversity by growing our own food and providing water, food and shelter in our garden



We care about the impact our business makes. Our actions are focused on protecting the environment, looking after each other, customers and the community



We use recycled and/or recyclable cardboard boxes, materials and paper products, including paper tape resulting in 100% plastic free packaging



We share resources on how to promote biodiversity and reduce climate footprint while living by the same principles in work and at home

UNDERSTORY'S VALUES



Summary



1

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is all around us .
It includes all living things, the
differences among them and
between all the different
environments they live in.

2

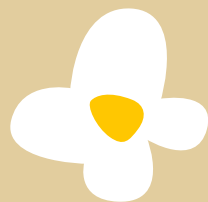
Current situation

Biodiversity is under threat
from unsustainable human
practices, species are becoming
extinct faster than new species
are found

3

Solutions

We can all learn about our local
biodiversity and the many ways
in which we can help it. Taking
action can have huge impacts
locally and globally.



Don't be afraid to be
unique in how you
support biodiversity!





Thank You For Attending!

Reach out to me on social media:



[instagram.com/understory_ie/](https://www.instagram.com/understory_ie/)



www.facebook.com/understory.ie