THE SCIENCE OF SENSE
ENVIRONMENT

BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity is short for biological diversity and means all living things. From the tiniest microorganisms like bacteria, to the largest mammal – the blue whale. Biodiversity is all our animals and plants, working together in ecosystems, which are like an intricate web, to maintain balance and support life. Without biodiversity our entire support system for human, as well as animal life, would collapse.

WORD SEARCH

BUTTERFLY   NATIVE   COCOON   WILLOW
BOGS   EXTINCTION   GRASS   PREDATORS
EGGS   WINGS   HIBERNATE   HABITAT

B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	F	A
O	E	T	Y	G	U	W	I	N	G	S
G	R	V	J	G	X	F	D	J	B	C
S	G	R	A	S	S	V	R	W	B	O
N	H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	E	C
A	I	F	G	W	I	L	L	O	W	O
T	P	R	E	D	A	T	O	R	S	O
I	E	H	A	B	I	T	A	T	H	N
V	G	D	H	E	S	J	E	E	X	Y
E	X	T	I	N	C	T	I	O	N	L

CALL TO ACTION

Create your own native Irish garden in a pot!

By planting a pot with pollen-rich native flowers, for your patio, balcony, window box, or even school yard, you will provide much-needed food for our pollinating insects helping to protect our biodiversity.

You will need:

- **Pot or container**, approx. 50cm in diameter, you can also recycle an old pot or container, just make sure it's clean and has holes drilled in the bottom.
- **Multi-purpose, peat-free compost.** It is important to choose peat free compost, because our peat, which comes from our bogs, is really important for biodiversity.
- **Native Irish pollen rich and nectar rich plants.** Such as hardy geraniums, heathers, saliva lavender or rosemary.
- **Watering can** or you can recycle a water bottle.

More information on National Biodiveristy Data Centre.
https://pollinators.ie/plant-a-pot-for-pollinators/

Professor Theodore Bumbledumm and a team of Junior Scientists have been busy exploring our environment in a 6 part radio series called the *Science of Sense Goes Exploring Our Environment* on RTE Junior Radio. This week presenters **Robyn McGarry** and **Rebekah Dunne** investigate our biodiversity with **Jesmond Harding, Conservation Officer for Butterfly Conservation Ireland.**