

Writing Scaffold: The Magnificent World of Nocturnal Animals

Learning objective: To structure a non-chronological report using subheadings, technical vocabulary, and formal language.

Use this scaffold to organise your report about a nocturnal animal. Ensure your facts are clear and your language remains formal throughout. Use the word bank to help connect your ideas.

As the sun dips below the horizon, a secret world awakens, inhabited by creatures perfectly adapted to the darkness.

Word bank: Furthermore · In addition · Consequently · Remarkably · Distinctive features · Habitat · Dietary requirements · However · Primarily

1. Introduction: What is the animal you have chosen and why is it considered nocturnal? Start by saying: [Animal name] is a fascinating creature that belongs to the group of animals known as... (2 marks)

2. Physical Appearance: Describe the animal's unique features. Start by saying: One of the most distinctive features of the [Animal name] is... (2 marks)

3. Habitat and Range: Where does it live? Start by saying: The [Animal name] is primarily found in [Location/Environment], which provides the perfect cover for... (2 marks)

4. Diet and Hunting: What does it eat and how does it find food? Start by saying: To survive in the dark, the [Animal name] has developed specialised methods for hunting, such as... (2 marks)

5. Fun Facts: Include something surprising. Start by saying: It is a little-known fact that... (2 marks)

6. Greater Depth Challenge: Explain why your chosen animal would struggle to survive if it were active during the day. Justify your answer using evidence about its adaptations. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Compare and contrast your nocturnal animal with Nova the owl. Create a Venn diagram to show similarities and differences in their hunting techniques. What might happen if your animal's habitat were destroyed by human development? Write a paragraph proposing two ways to protect this species.