Kit's Clever Computing: Sorting Wildlife Data

1. //// // (2 marks)

Working: A group of 5 (////) plus 2 extra marks (//) equals 7.

Accept one group of 5 (with a diagonal line) and two single marks.

2. 17 animals (2 marks)

Working: 4 + 5 + 8 = 17

Award 1 mark for correct addition, 1 mark for the correct total.

3. 3 pictures (2 marks)

Working: 6 ÷ 2 = 3

Award 1 mark for the correct calculation, 1 mark for the final answer.

4. 7 (1 mark)

Working: 5 (the crossed group) + 2 = 7

Award 1 mark for the correct frequency.

5. Robins (2 marks)

Look for: The child identifies the highest number (9) and links it to the correct animal.

Good: Robins.

Better: Robins, because 9 is more than 3 and 6.

Best: The robins were seen the most because they had a frequency of 9, which is the highest number compared to 3 hedgehogs and 6 badgers.

What moves an answer up: Moving from good to best requires comparing the numbers and explicitly naming the animal.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure learner can accurately group tallies into fives and perform simple addition to find totals. They should understand that pictograms can represent more than one item per symbol.

If your child is stuck

Ask your child to count the tally marks in groups of five first, then add the remaining ones. For the pictogram, suggest drawing the trees in pairs to help them see how many symbols are needed.

Common mistakes to watch for

Children often forget to include the diagonal line as part of the group of five, or they may count the diagonal line as a separate sixth mark instead of part of the five.