



Nature Notes

For life to exist there must be Sun, Air, Water and Soil. These are all gifts provided by Nature.

*We cannot make any of these gifts, but Nature offers them to us.
We can take care of these gifts by taking care of Nature so Nature can take care of us.*

Habitats

JSP has many habitats but the three main habitats are;

Veteran trees, woodland and deadwood

Meadows and grasslands

Ponds and wetlands



All plants, animals and humans need certain things to survive and Nature provides things in the habitat in which we live.

What do you need from your environment to survive?

Habitats are big and small; it all depends on who is asking the question!

A small fish lives in a pond. The pond is the fish's habitat and to the fish it is quite large. A dog jumping in the pond might think it's a small pond. You might think it's a tiny pond and an elephant might think it's a puddle or not even see it at all!

Habitats can also fit one inside the other.

If JSP is a habitat how many smaller habitats within it can you see?

There are smaller habitats within a pond. A rock in the pond may be covered in moss, and in the moss live lots of insects; the rock is their habitat.

Can you think of all the things a bird needs to survive?

Can you think of all the things worms need to survive?

Can you think of things a fish needs to survive?



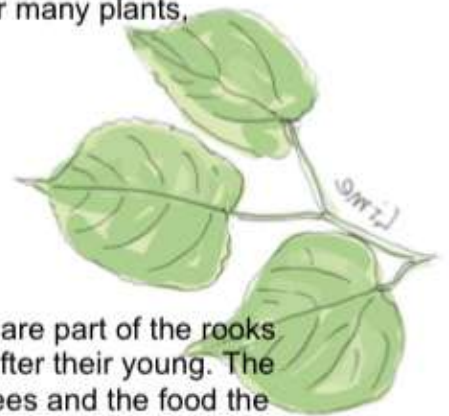
Trees are a very important and wonderful part of Nature.

Why are trees an important part of so many habitats?



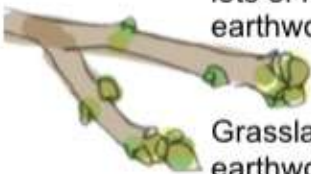
They hold the soil together, they catch the rain on their leaves and let it fall slowly to earth so it can be gently absorbed by the soil. The branches and trunk provide homes for bats, birds, insects, lichens, mosses and fungi, trees even clean the air and produce oxygen for us to breathe. On top of all of this they are great to climb and provide shade from the sun.

Trees are a very important part of many habitats for many plants, animals and people.



The rooks that live in JSP live high in the trees. The trees are part of the rooks habitat, providing a safe place to lay their eggs and look after their young. The rooks will feed off insects, seeds and earthworms. The trees and the food the rooks eat are all part of the rooks habitat and without these things the rook would not survive.

The earthworm needs soil in which to live. The earthworm feeds on dead plant material, like autumn leaves that have fallen to the ground. They also feed on tiny organisms that live in the soil. The earthworms give lots of gifts back to the soil by breaking down leaves for the soil to absorb and by creating lots of holes to let air and water deep in to the soil. Soil likes earthworms and earthworms like soil.



Grasslands and meadows grow in soil so they also like earthworms, because earthworms keep the soil healthy so the grasses can grow. Earthworms like grasses, because when the grasses die the earthworms have food.

Everything has a habitat within which it lives and within that habitat, Nature provides everything we need to live.

Grasslands, wetlands and trees are all habitats and each one of these habitats is important to the other, often with different habitats created in between each of them. Each habitat can also offer a home to different species at different times of the year. For example, a pond may be full of water in winter but just a muddy puddle in summer, some insects really like muddy puddles but not water!

