



BE A WARDEN

Have fun using your eyes, ears and nose to find all the amazing wildlife on Mousa and getting hands on with an RSPB warden's duties for a day!

LET'S EXPLORE MOUSA!

Everyone can use this map to learn more about the amazing wildlife on Mousa and the importance of working together to protect it.

FOR FAMILIES:

You can find backpacks in the storage box marked with the Biosecurity logo near the Mousa pier. Take one map for each child.

FOR SCHOOLS:

Teachers can separate pupils into groups to share one backpack each—found in the storage box. Each pupil should have their own map.



The backpacks include:

CLIPBOARD & MARKER, MONOCULAR, MAGNIFYING GLASS, LITTLE BAG OF PULSES

Please return the backpack in the storage box for others to use.



MOUSA: A HOME FOR OUR SPECIAL SEABIRDS

From the mysterious storm petrels to the pretty Arctic terns with their loud voices many seabirds across the UK are struggling to survive. Protected island reserves like Mousa are very important to help keep these lovely birds safe.

Almost 8 million seabirds live in the UK and many of them choose islands where there are no mammal predators like rats, stoats or hedgehogs. These mammals are found on the UK mainland but they are not native to most of our smaller islands. Many seabirds have no defence against these predators making predator-free islands safe havens for birds like storm petrels. Preventing predators like rats from getting to islands like Mousa is vital to safeguard our seabird populations, particularly the famous storm petrels; this is called biosecurity and everyone can help!

The Biosecurity for LIFE project works with all those who live on, work on or travel to islands to reduce the risk of invasive non-native mammalian predators spreading to our islands.

FUNDED BY



@biosecurityLIFE

Find out more at biosecurityforlife.org.uk

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Don't disturb the wildlife
- Take your rubbish home with you
- Rats and mice like to hide in bags and boxes: check your bags for stowaways before getting on the boat
- If you see an animal that shouldn't live there, report it!
- Don't climb on the stone walls – there might be a storm petrel nesting in there!

Who lives on Mousa?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SEAL | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCTIC SKUA | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCTIC TERN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STORM PETREL | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK GUILLEMOT | <input type="checkbox"/> GREAT SKUA |

Who should NOT live on Mousa?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> RAT | <input type="checkbox"/> CAT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MOUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> HEDGEHOG |



BE A WARDEN

Tear out your drawing and add it to the Wardens Wall of Fame on the inside of the box! This way we will know that we had an amazing warden onsite today protecting our precious wildlife!

Use the monocular, your ears and your nose to spot all the amazing wildlife on Mousa

WILDLIFE WARDEN

TODAY'S WEATHER:



MOUSA'S BEST BITS: _____

DRAW YOUR PORTRAIT HERE



Magic Plants

Spot Mousa's answer to Venus Flytrap - **Butterwort!** The rigid leaves of this carnivorous plant look like lime coloured starfish and are sticky on the inside to catch unsuspecting insects!



USING A SEPERATE SHEET AND CLIPBOARD, DRAW THE BUTTERWORT THAT YOU FIND

HOW MANY PETALS DOES IT HAVE?



Predator Detector

Rats eat eggs and chicks - look for the wardens' box with chocolate-flavoured wax that helps them detect rats.



CAN YOU SEE ANY TEETH MARKS ON THE WAX BLOCK?



TIP!

USE YOUR MAGNIFYING GLASS TO LOOK FOR RAT POO AROUND THE BOX!



Look out for Skuas!

Arctic skuas (skooty aalins) and great skuas (bonxies) roam along the Island Loop in summer. They are very protective of their chicks, but if you stick to the paths you shouldn't upset them.



A Warden's Job

- Stay on the path
- Take your litter home
- Check your bags for stowaways like rats or mice
- Inspire others to do the same

The Broch

Storm petrels (alamooties) hide in the walls, away from predators. The best way to find out if they are there is to try and hear or smell them.

Pass round the little bag of pulses in your backpack. This is how much a storm petrel weighs!



TIP!

LISTEN FOR WHIRRING AND SQUEAKING
SMELL SWEET MUSTY SMELL

Predator vs Prey Game

Stand in a circle. Without speaking or giving away any clues, each person chooses someone to be their predator (rat) and their prey (bird). When the youngest person in the group says GO, each person must follow their prey by taking large strides without running. Don't forget to keep moving away from the predator.

CHALLENGE: STAY ON THE PATH!

Selkie Kingdom

Use the monocular to spot the seals from behind the stone dyke, so you don't disturb them.

COUNT HOW MANY YOU CAN SEE!



Stay on the path!

Arctic terns nest near here and are sensitive to disturbance. They are elegant little birds but loud and will defend their nests!

