



Summary Activity:
2d Why is biodiversity important?
***Wavelet* junior newsletter article**

Time: 1 hour

Resources: *Wavelet* background sheet, preparation sheet.

Aims: To encourage students to consider answers to the question, why is biodiversity important? To develop literacy skills.

Suggested method:

Explain to students the overall aim of the activity is to produce an article on Biodiversity and its importance. The article will be written for *Wavelet*, the junior members' magazine of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust. In order to achieve this they will need to have completed one or more of the activities about 'why is biodiversity important' so that they have ideas on content. In this activity students will consider background information about *Wavelet* newsletter and then complete a preparation sheet of ideas before beginning to write the article.

The *Wavelet* background worksheet will provide students with information about what they are trying to achieve. Once they have read through this worksheet and discussed it, students will complete the preparation sheet individually before beginning to write their article. Using the newsletter template, students can produce and write their article on a computer and produce a professional looking outcome.

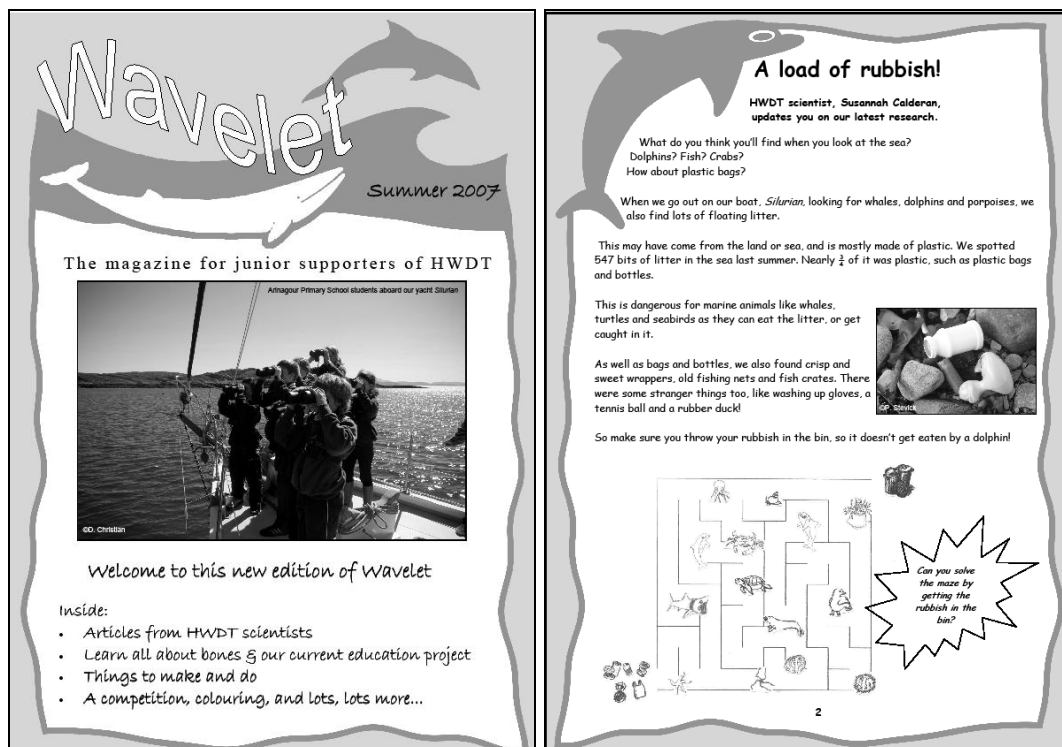
Please send us your student's articles. We would love to read them, and may even print the best one!

Wavelet background sheet

Your task is to write an interesting article on biodiversity for *Wavelet*. In your article you must explain what biodiversity is and why it is important.

Wavelet is the eight page magazine which is sent three times a year to all junior members of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust. It is also given to schools which take part in HWDT's marine environmental education projects. Most of the junior members who read this magazine are between 8 and 12 years old. The purposes of the magazine are to educate readers about whales, dolphins and porpoises and the marine environments of the west coast of Scotland; to raise awareness of the threats to the marine environment; and also to be interesting and fun for junior members.

As you can see from the example pages below the magazine is designed to be easy to read and contains images to link to the text. Study these examples of pages from recent editions to see if you can pick up any design tips for your article.





Preparation Sheet

Now use all your background knowledge to plan your *Wavelet* article. Start by completing these two boxes:

Main things to write about:

What is biodiversity?

Why is biodiversity important?

Anything else I will write about -

Who is my article for:

Design and layout ideas:

Draft the article first before checking it and making improvements. Then design the layout and include any images which you think are important.

Good luck!