

£1/€1.50 BOOK INFORMATION SHEET

GWYRDD EIN BYD

WRITTEN BY: Duncan Brown
ILLUSTRATED BY: Helen Flook
PUBLISHER: Rily



ABOUT THE BOOK:

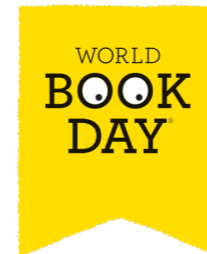
Have you heard about the ancient fish in Llyn Tegid? What about the bird that nests in rabbit warrens on Skomer Island? And did you know that we have rainforests here in Wales? To learn more about these and lots of other fascinating facts, join nature expert Duncan Brown on a walk through Wales. From mountains to marshes and from cities to the seaside – amazing wildlife is all around us. With detailed drawings by Helen Flook on every page, *Gwyrdd ein Byd* presents a vivid picture of Welsh wildlife – and explains what we can do to protect it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Duncan was born in Derbyshire and moved to Wales when he was a year old. After gaining a degree in Fine Art from the Norwich School of Art, he worked for three years as an art teacher. Inspired by his upbringing in rural Eryri, he then decided to follow a different path and studied Field Biology at the University of London. Upon returning to Wales, he worked as a nature reserve manager in Gwynedd for almost fifty years and was responsible for various habitats – sand dunes, mountains, marshes and forests. He developed a keen interest in historical ecology and the relationship between nature and people throughout the ages, especially in Wales. Since retiring in 2009, he enjoys collaborating with Twm Elias and others on the Llên Natur project, which brings together the Welsh language, concern for the environment and an interest in nature. He also loves cycling, gardening and cooking.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR:

Helen was born in North Wales and graduated from Norwich School of Art with a degree in Graphic Design. She worked over ten years as an archaeologist in Britain and Europe. In 1995 she moved to Canada with her family. During that time, she began working as an author / illustrator, and over the past thirty years has illustrated over a hundred books for publishers worldwide. In 2005 Helen returned to north Wales with her family where she now lives and works in the tiny village of Abergwyngregyn at the base of the Eryri mountains, and close to the sea. Aside from illustrating, her hobbies include quilting, knitting, gardening, yoga and walking.



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World Book Day have worked with Coram Beanstalk and Bag Books to create activities that open the door to each book before the child even opens the front cover.

BOOK CHAT:

How many different bits of amazing wildlife can you see on the front cover?
Would you like to go exploring in a rock pool by the sea? What kind of creatures might you find?
Have you ever climbed a big hill or a mountain? How do you think it would feel to get to the top of a mountain? What could you see from the top?

A GAME YOU COULD PLAY:

“Would you rather?”

Using the different places and parts of wildlife in the book, come up with some ‘Would you rather’ questions for a partner to answer.

For example:

- Would you rather explore the rainforest or climb a mountain?
- Would you rather spend a day in the city or at the seaside?
- Would you rather live in a burrow underground or in a nest up high?

For more fun

Go outside with an adult on a nature walk and see how many signs of wildlife you can see around you. You can do this if you live in a city, town, village or the countryside!

SENSORY ACTIVITIES:

Exploring Welsh Wildlife Sensory Bin

Create a sensory bin or tray to represent the diverse landscapes and wildlife of Wales. Use different materials to reflect the unique habitats mentioned in the book:

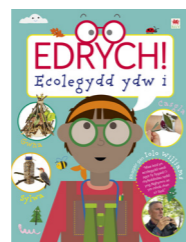
- **Llyn Tegid (Bala Lake):** Include smooth stones, blue gel beads to mimic the lake and some toy fish.
- **Skomer Island:** Add soft feathers and textured fabric to represent the nesting birds and their unique burrow homes.
- **Welsh Rainforest:** Use moss, twigs, and damp sponges to evoke the lush, humid forest floors of the Celtic rainforest.

Explore the materials, discussing the habitats and the wildlife that call them home. You can even play recordings of bird calls or water sounds to make the experience even more immersive.

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Publisher: Rily Publications



Author: Cathriona Hickey
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