

# Caring for Capercaillie

## Teacher guidance



### Overview:

Our Caring for Capercaillie course has been developed in collaboration with Cairngorms Capercaillie Project. It is designed to inspire interest in these magnificent birds, the largest member of the grouse family.

These lessons are designed to be teacher facilitated or self-led (age and stage dependent) and utilise our charity's virtual learning portal, ZOOdle ([learning.rzss.org.uk](http://learning.rzss.org.uk)).

### Curriculum Links:

The course resources are separated into Primary and Secondary levels, this resource pack is for Third and Fourth Level and applies the following curricular links:

CfE Level	CfE Curricular areas					
	Literacy	Sciences	Social Studies	Technologies	Health & Wellbeing	Expressive Arts
Third	LIT 3-04a LIT 3-07a LIT 3-13a	SCN 3-01 SCN 3-14b SCN 3-20a	SOC 3-10a SOC 3-14a	TCH 3-01a	HWB 3-12a HWB 3-13a HWB 3-19a	EXA 3-02a EXA 3*04a EXA 3-06a
Fourth	LIT 4-04a LIT 4-07a LIT 4-13a	SCN 4-14b SCN 4-14c	SOC 4-08a SOC 4-09b SOC 4-10a	TCH 4-01a	HWB 4-12a HWB 4-13a HWB 4-19a	EXA 4-02a EXA 4-04a EXA 4-05a EXA 4-06a
<b>Wider Links</b>						
<b>Learning for Sustainability</b>		<b>UNCRC</b>		<b>Developing the Young Workforce</b>		
Sustainable Development Goals:  15 – Life on Land – Protect Restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manager forests. Combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and habitat loss.		Rights of the Child:  13. The right to find information 17. The right to get information. 28. The right to education. 29. Your education should help develop your personality		Career Education Standard:  I can demonstrate and apply the skills I have learnt across the curriculum in relation to the world of work.  I can demonstrate diverse thinking when exploring learning opportunities and pathways.  I can explore investigate and assess ethical issues in business and trade decisions.		



## Learning Intentions and suggested Success Criteria for online learning:

	Learning Intention	Suggested Success Criteria
Third Level	We are learning to identify and suggest ways to manage environmental issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can identify capercaillie.</li> <li>I can explore the impact of human behaviours on wildlife.</li> <li>I can discuss the importance of DNA profiling for conservation efforts.</li> </ul>
Fourth Level	We are learning to assess the impact of human activity on an area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can compare historic and current species and/or habitat distribution data.</li> <li>I can discuss the importance of genetic science in supporting conservation.</li> <li>I can promote responsible environmental behaviours.</li> </ul>

### Accessibility and Differentiation.

- Screen readers may be utilised with text-based content.
- We would recommend teacher/Learning Assistant support or mixed ability pairings.
- Where possible, visual and audible content has been provided.
- Comprehension tasks can be facilitated using Interactive Whiteboards and whole class check-in's and/or modelling.

### Key Vocabulary for learners and teachers

- CAPERCAILLIE – A large black ground nesting woodland bird with a distinct call, they are around 60-87cm long and weigh between 1.5-5kg.
- CONSERVATION – The protection of animals, plants, and natural areas (ecosystems).
- CAIRNGORMS – An area in the northern part of Scotland, much of which is protected as a national park.
- DISTURBANCE - An interruption that effects an animals or persons behaviour.
- DNA PROFILING – The use of tissue samples to identify the genetic make-up of individuals.
- ENDANGERED – An animal or plant that is at serious risk of extinction.
- EXTINCTION – The dying out of a species, i.e. dinosaurs, dodo, woolly mammoth, thylacine.
- GENETIC VARIATION – The genetic diversity within a given population.
- GENETIC DIVERSITY – The variety of different inherited traits within a species.
- LEK – An area that capercaillie return to year after year to compete for females and breed.
- LEKING - behaviour where male capercaillie meet to measure strength and compete for females.
- LEKING SEASON – The period between March and May when capercaillie are breeding.
- LIFECYCLE – The growth of an individual animal or species-typical behaviour. E.g. egg to chick to juvenile to adult bird
- NESTING -The act of building a nest, incubating eggs, and raising chicks. For capercaillie this is May to August.
- SPECIES – A group of animals with similar features that can breed and produce fertile offspring.
- PERSECUTION – The hunting, shooting, trapping, or killing of an animal for sport or historic land management.
- RESTORATION – Returning something to its earlier, better, condition.
- REAFFORESTATION – The action of planting trees on an area of land that used to have trees, recreating the forest habitat.
- PREDATOR – An animal that hunts and eats another animal.

## EXTENDING THE LEARNING:

It is appreciated that some teachers may wish to extend the learning around capercaillie... and we welcome your efforts to connect your learners to nature, supporting their desire to protect, value and love the world around us!

Complimentary activity suggestions:

- Create a range of capercaillie imagery using collage, tone, line and shape or 3D modelling.
- Explore the role of a conservationist using My World of Work or similar resources.
- Investigate further links between capercaillie "*capall coille*" and Scottish Culture through mythology and folklore.
- Visualise and measure scale and size through mapping the Cairngorms, explore capercaillie dimensions through practical activities.
- Consider investigating further native species: [RZSS: Bonnie Beasts of Scotland](#)

