Each week classes look at a 'Weekly Picture News' story. Let's have a look at this week's story…

Let's look at this week's story

It has been suggested that the number of hazel dormice in the UK has dropped from around 3.5 million to only 750,000 in almost 30 years. Currently, their conservation status is classed as 'vulnerable', but some researchers say people should be more worried for them. A recent report from the University of Exeter urges for hazel dormice to be reclassified as 'endangered' and calls for more conservation action.

Learn more about this week's story here.
Watch this week's useful video here.
This week's Virtual Picture News here.

Could you do more to protect your local area?

Reflection

In both cities and the countryside, alongside people – there are other creatures, both great and small, who find homes in almost any place! It's important to be aware of local habitats and ensure the homes of wildlife are protected.

This week's story looks at events related to …

North America
Europe
Asia
United Kingdom
Africa
South America
Oceania

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British Values

Democracy

We all have a voice and our opinions should be heard. If we want to help care for and protect natural habitats, we can use our voice and take action.

Protected Characteristics

For some people, caring for and protecting natural environments form part of their beliefs. It will affect their life choices or how they live their life.

Sex
Sexual Orientation
Age
Disability
Gender Reassignment
Marriage and Civil Partnership
Pregnancy and Maternity
Race
Religion or Belief

UN Rights of a Child

We have the right to give our opinions freely about any issues that affect us such as issues in our local area. Adults should listen to us and take us seriously.

12 RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS

Useful vocabulary

Conservation status
Indicates whether a group of organisms/species still exists and how likely it is to become extinct in the near future.
Currently, their **conservation status** is classed as 'vulnerable'.

Habitats
The natural homes or environments of an animal, plant, or other organism.
It's important to be aware of local **habitats** and ensure the homes of wildlife are protected.

Reclassified
Assigned or divided something into a different category or group than it was previously.
A recent report from the University of Exeter urges for hazel dormice to be **reclassified** as 'endangered'.

Reintroduced
Put a species of plant or animal back into its former habitat.
Talk about the importance of such checks and why you think the dormice are being **reintroduced**.

Thrive
To grow or develop well.
It is thought that a lot of the habitat that the hazel dormouse needs to survive and **thrive** is decreasing.

Urges
Strongly advises or tries to persuade someone to do something.
A recent report from the University of Exeter **urges** for hazel dormice to be reclassified as 'endangered'.