

WHERE THE WILD ONES LEARN

What Goes Bump in the Night Nature Study

PRIMARY

AGES AROUND 5-11

THROUGH THE WILD LENS™

Night life, questions and investigations

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36-PAGE NATURE STUDY

Common glow-worm: adult female

Lampyris noctiluca

FEATURES TO COMPARE

The adult female is wingless and can look rather like a larva. She is a beetle. This photograph shows her body, not a demonstration of the brightness of her glow.

LIFE AND ACTIVITY

The adult female produces a greenish light that signals to flying males. The larvae also glow faintly and feed on snails and slugs. The adult female’s light is not a lure for catching flying insects.

KEEP A QUESTION OPEN

Which life stage and sex does a claim describe? Some other insects called glow-worms elsewhere have different ways of living. Separate what the photograph shows from information learned through a source.



Species reference photographs; not a local wildlife record.

Read more: Common glow-worm

Choose a question you can follow

START FROM A NOTICE

A pink moth, a shadow that grew or an unidentified mark could become a question. Decide whether it needs a source, a model or repeated observation.

PLAN ONLY WHAT IS USEFUL

Choose what to compare, what to keep similar and what counts as an observation. Agree a comfortable duration and a way to stop. Tools and adult help are available without taking over the question.

A DEEPER ROUTE

Predict two possible results and explain what each would mean. Include a limitation before starting. A well-designed question may be answered from existing photographs and sources rather than a new field visit.



Brown-lipped snail. Donald Hobern (CC BY 2.0).