



Children's Heritage Plan Wildlife and Nature

**North Lanarkshire Rural
Heritage Program**



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2. Examples of wildlife living in and around the villages
3. Wildlife drawing and colouring sheets
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1. Welcome

The Children's Heritage Plan has been produced as part of the North Lanarkshire Rural Communities Heritage Program. The program looks at five rural communities where there is potential to use heritage as a tool for regeneration.

The five communities chosen for this pilot project are Caldercruix, Greengairs (and Wattston), Harthill (Eastfield and Greenrigg), Plains and Upperton.

Each of the local communities involved expressed a desire to engage younger people and children in local history and heritage. This Children's Heritage Plan can be used by anyone who works with children or cares for children. It is intended to highlight the local wildlife and history of the rural communities in North Lanarkshire.

The document has been produced by Community Action Lanarkshire as part of the North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Programme.

The programme is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Cover photograph shows a brown hare running

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Program

Nature and Wildlife surrounding rural villages in North Lanarkshire



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RURAL DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Caldercruix – local wildlife



Photograph of an otter at the edge of the water

The countryside in North Lanarkshire had an amazing array of landscapes that provide habitats for the plants, birds, insects and mammals that live there.

From bogs and lochs to moorland and farms, if you look carefully you may spot the wide variety of wildlife on your doorstep.



Photograph of a lapwing

Caldercruix and the surrounding environment is a great place to look for wildlife. Otters are thought to be living at Hillend Loch and many migratory birds pass through the area. The small island on the loch (normally cut off from the banks unless the water levels are very low) is an ideal site for nesting birds.

Species that you may see around Caldercruix include lapwings, skylarks, the great crested grebe and otters.

Otters are a protected species and is a semi-aquatic mammal. They feed on fish, spawning frogs and toads and may also eat mammals or birds.

Lapwings can often be found near farmlands or wetlands and the area around Caldercruix has both.

The skylark is a small brown bird which tends to eat seeds and insects.

Great crested grebes are waterbirds. They mainly eat fish and will dive to feed and to escape from predators.

Did you know that very young grebes often ride on the backs of their parents!



Photograph of a great crested grebe



Photograph of a skylark

Greengairs and Wattston



Photograph of an otter at the edge of the water

Species that you may see around Greengairs and Wattston include otters, bats and water voles.

Otters are a protected species and is a semi-aquatic mammal. They feed on fish, spawning frogs and toads and may also eat mammals or birds.

Soprano pipistrelle and common pipistrelle bats can occasionally be seen at dusk feeding in or near woodlands or hedgerows.

In the past water voles were common along river banks. Now however, water voles are rare due to a decline in population. They are a protected species and it is an offence to damage or destroy the habitat or shelter used by water voles.

In Stanrigg Memorial Park there are a number of wildflower species that can help to attract and feed pollinators.

The countryside in North Lanarkshire had an amazing array of landscapes that provide habitats for the plants, birds, insects and mammals that live there.

From bogs and lochs to moorland and farms, if you look carefully you may spot the wide variety of wildlife on your doorstep.



Common ragwort



Ragged robin (cuckoo flower)



Wild chamomile



Common spotted orchid

Harthill Eastfield & Greenrigg



Photograph of Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

The countryside in North Lanarkshire had an amazing array of landscapes that provide habitats for the plants, birds, insects and mammals that live there.

From bogs and lochs to moorland and farms, if you look carefully you may spot the wide variety of wildlife on your doorstep.

Harthill, Eastfield, Greenrigg and the surrounding environment is a great place to look for wildlife.

Species that you may see around Harthill include peregrine falcons, swifts, skylark, brown hare and the small pearl bordered fritillary.

The small pearl bordered fritillary can be found in woodlands, moorland and damp grassland. More common in the Highlands though they can be found in sites close to Harthill.

Brown hares are larger than rabbits and have longer legs and longer ears. They graze on vegetation and may even gnaw bark from trees and bushes.

The skylark is a small brown bird which tends to eat seeds and insects. They have a small crest on their head which they can raise.



Photograph of brown hare



Photograph of a skylark

Plains – local wildlife



Photograph of an otter at the edge of the water

The countryside in North Lanarkshire had an amazing array of landscapes that provide habitats for the plants, birds, insects and mammals that live there.

From bogs and lochs to moorland and farms, if you look carefully you may spot the wide variety of wildlife on your doorstep.



Photograph of a sand martin

Species that you may see around Plains includes sand martin, bats, snipe, curlew and the small pearl-bordered fritillary.

Soprano pipistrelle and common pipistrelle bats can occasionally be seen at dusk feeding in or near woodlands or hedgerows.

Sand martins predominantly eat invertebrates and tend to feed flying over water. They have dark brown coloured wings and back, a light coloured underside with a band of dark feathers between head and chest. Sand martins are also the smallest member of the swallow family.

Snipe are also found close to Plains. They live in marches and moorlands and are wading birds. They have a long bill which they use to find their food. They eat insects, earthworms and crustaceans.

Did you know that the tip of a snipe's beak is flexible? It is also full of nerve endings which helps the snipe to locate its prey!



Photograph of a small pearl-bordered fritillary



Photograph of a snipe

Upperton – local wildlife



Photograph of a skylark

The landscape surrounding Upperton is a great place to look for wildlife. Here are some examples of the amazing birds you might be lucky enough to see!

The skylark is a small brown bird which tends to eat seeds and insects.

Snipe are also found close to Upperton. They live in marches and moorlands and are wading birds. They have a long bill which they use to find their food. They eat insects, earthworms and crustaceans.

Did you know that the tip of a snipe's beak is flexible? It is also full of nerve endings which helps the snipe to locate its prey!

Barn owls are very distinctive in shape and colouring. They have a white stomach, buff coloured back and wings and a heart shaped face. Their diet consists of mice, voles and shrews. They are nocturnal – that means they mainly come out at night.

The countryside in North Lanarkshire had an amazing array of landscapes that provide habitats for the plants, birds, insects and mammals that live there.

From bogs and lochs to moorland and farms, if you look carefully you may spot the wide variety of wildlife on your doorstep.



Photograph of a snipe



Photograph of a barn owl

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Program

Wildlife Colouring and drawing sheets



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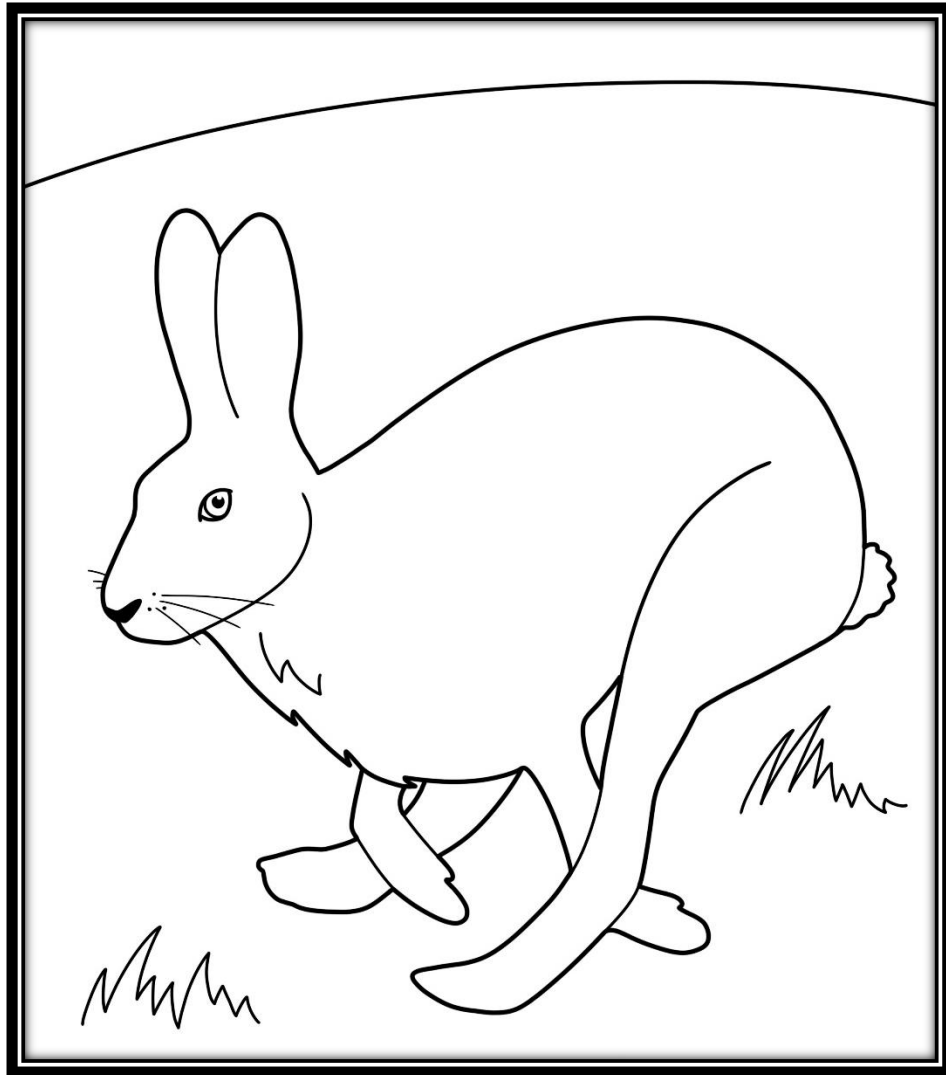
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Brown Hare Colouring Sheet



FACTS ABOUT THE BROWN HARE

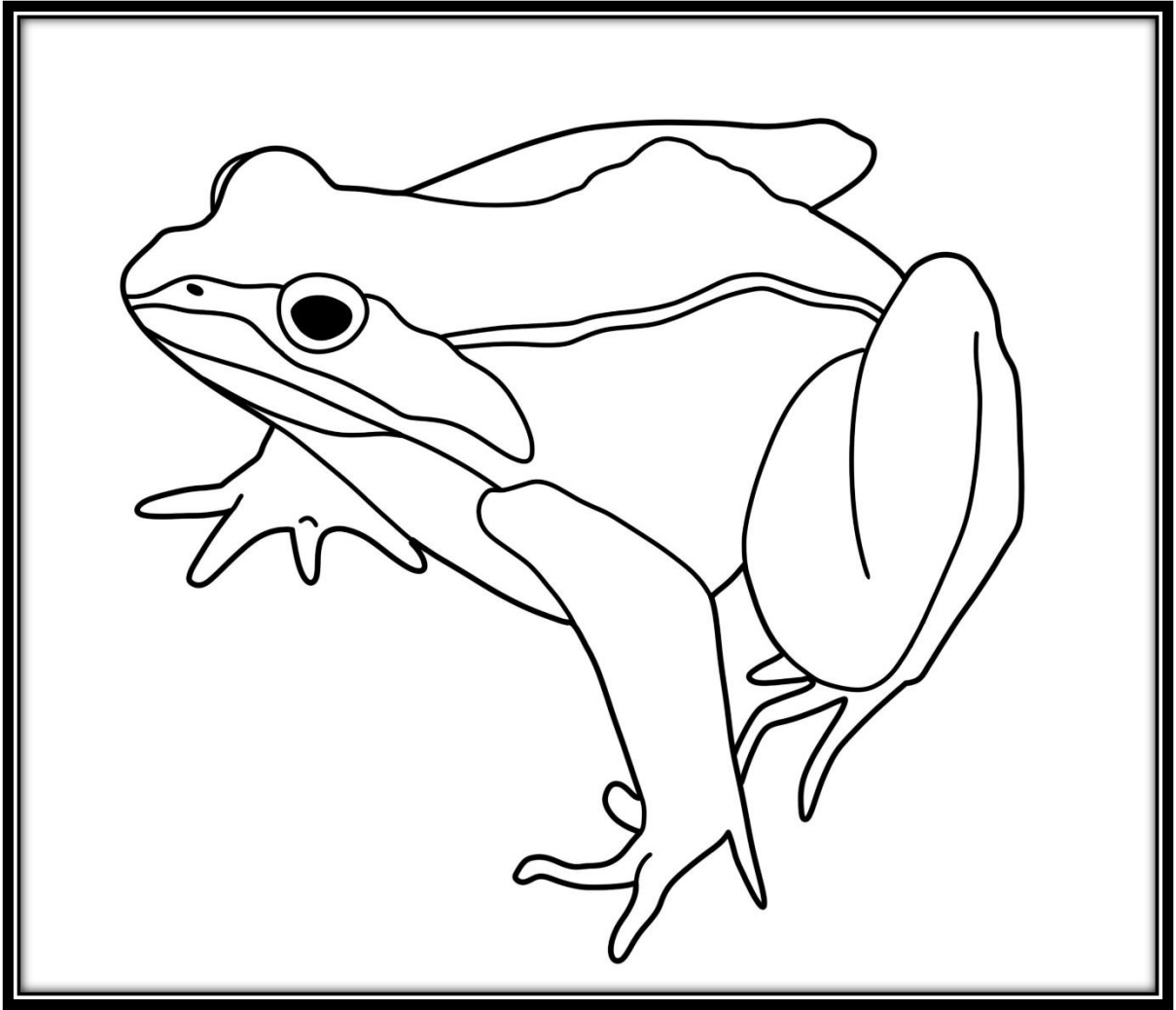
Brown hares are larger than rabbits and have longer legs and longer ears. They have large powerful hind legs and are a brown colour with a lighter belly. Their ears have black tips. They shelter in shallow dips in the ground known as a 'form'. They graze on vegetation and may even gnaw bark from trees and bushes.

DID YOU KNOW?

The powerful hind legs help the brown hare to outrun predators – they can reach speeds of up to 45 miles per hour!

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage

Common Frog Colouring Sheet



FACTS ABOUT THE COMMON FROG

Common frogs are around 8cm long and can live for 5 to 10 years!

Frog are amphibians. Amphibians produce their eggs in water but can live on land or in water. They tend to hop rather than walk.

In spring frogs will lay their eggs in clumps known as frog spawn. The rest of the year may be spent in gardens, hedgerows or grassland.

DID YOU KNOW?

Common frogs can breathe through their lungs AND through their skin!

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Otter Colouring Sheet



FACTS ABOUT OTTERS

Otters can live in rivers, canals, wetland, on the coast and in lochs. They have thick brown fur and a thick tail. They are strong swimmers and will eat fish and eels. They will also eat amphibians and crustaceans. Occasionally they will look for food along the shoreline eating water birds, eggs and small mammals.

DID YOU KNOW?

Otters like to live in areas with clean water and vegetation. They will form a nest known as a 'holt' near the riverbank and line it with grass, ferns and leaves.

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage

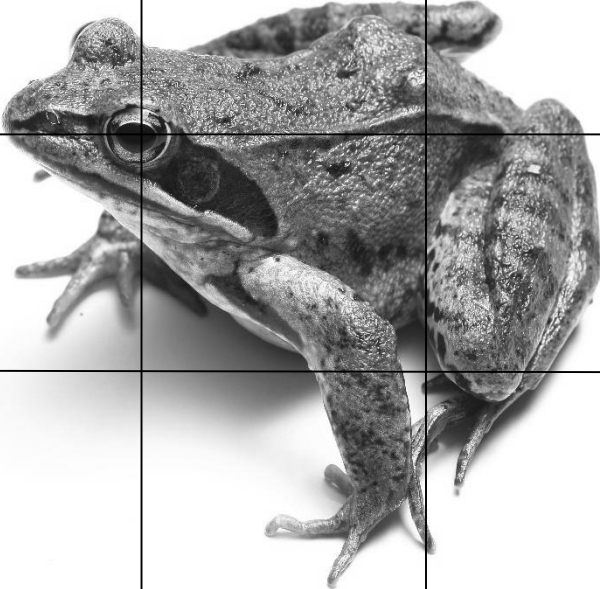
Common Frog Drawing Sheet

THE COMMON FROG

Common frogs are around 8cm long and can live for 5 to 10 years!

Frog are amphibians. Amphibians produce their eggs in water but can live on land or in water. They tend to hop rather than walk.

Draw your frog here

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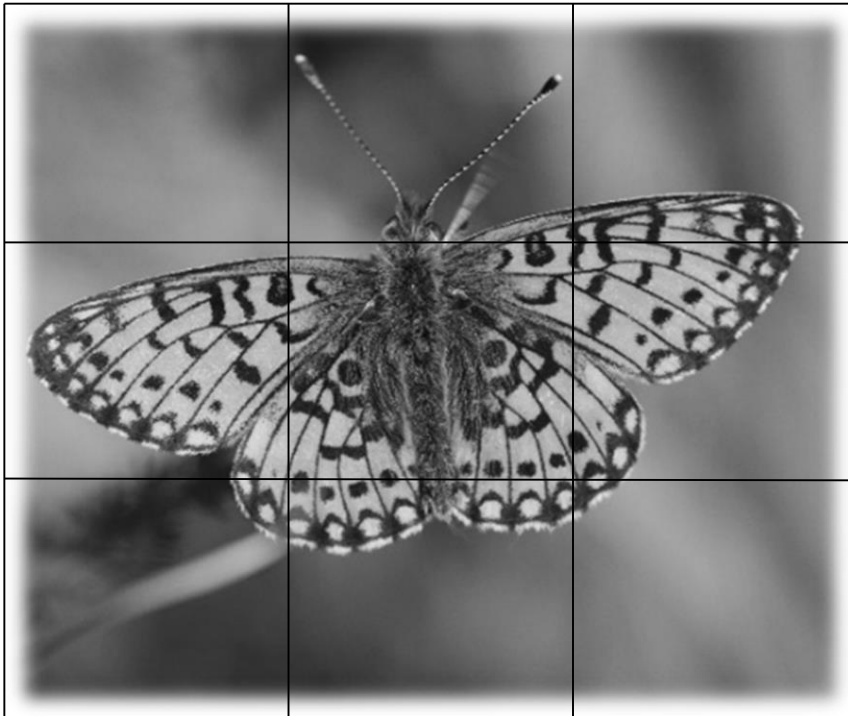
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Butterfly Drawing Sheet

THE SMALL PEARL BORDERED FRITILLARY

The small pearl bordered fritillary is a type of butterfly.

It can be found in woodlands, moorland and damp grassland. More common in the Highlands though they can be found in sites close to Harthill.



It is an orange and brown coloured butterfly with a row of white 'pearls' on the underside of the wings.

DID YOU KNOW?

Adult butterflies fly close to the ground. They are attracted by a number of plants including brambles and thistles.

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage

Skylark Drawing Sheet

Draw your skylark here



THE SKYLARK

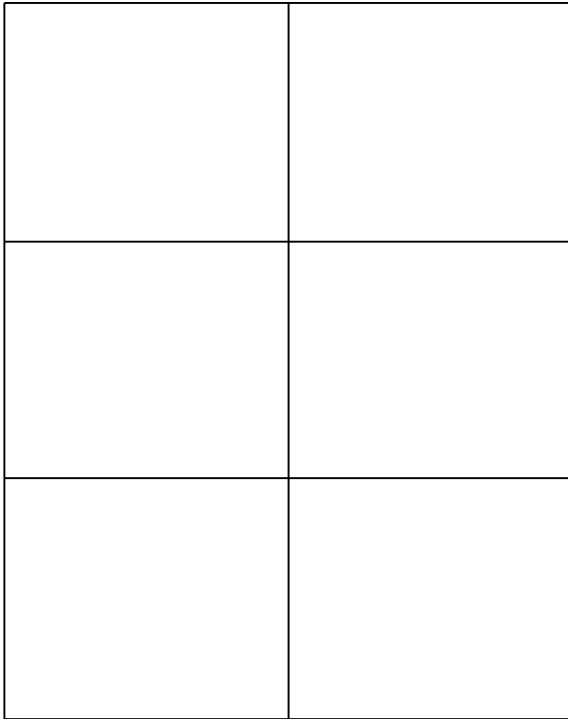
Skylarks are small, brown birds with slight streaks on their feathers. They are larger than a sparrow but smaller than a thrush and have a distinct crest on the top of their heads.

Male skylarks perform amazing displays of almost vertical flying and singing before diving back to the ground.

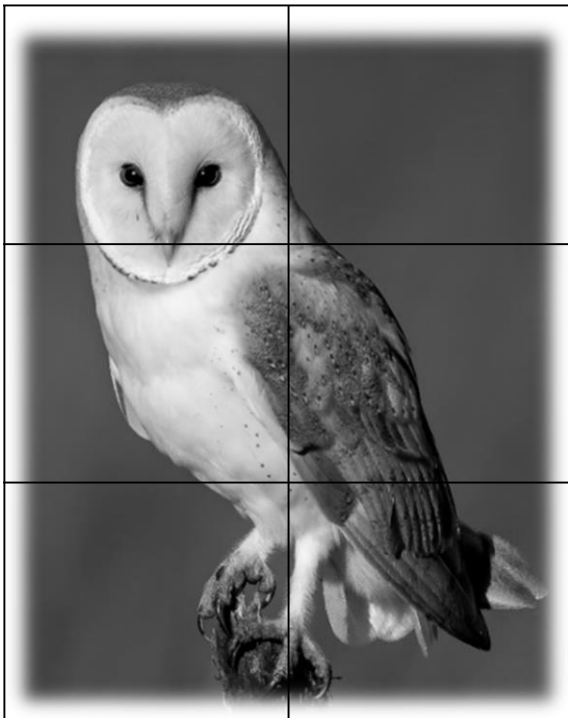
DID YOU KNOW?

Skylarks nest on the ground and their chicks grow quickly. By the time they are two weeks old they can look after themselves.

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Barn Owl Drawing Sheet



Draw your owl here



BARN OWL FACTS

Barn owls tend to be nocturnal, hunting mice and other small animals. Occasionally you may see one during the day.

However, Barn Owls are usually identified by their distinct cry which is described as piercing!

Their feathers are white underneath, with buff and silvery grey feathers on their wings and back.

DID YOU KNOW?

Barn Owls have incredible hearing. They use sound to locate their prey, which usually consists of small mammals.

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Program

Word Search

**For
Caldercruix
Greengairs and Wattston
Harthill, Eastfield and Greenrigg
Plains
Upperton**



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Caldercruix Word Search

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

F	Q	A	A	A	L	X	W	C	N	H	J	P	E	E
C	G	Y	B	U	U	O	H	F	G	I	H	O	R	A
A	T	N	K	G	C	F	H	Y	X	L	Y	V	M	R
L	R	S	I	Z	F	H	A	N	C	L	A	K	D	B
D	O	F	Z	T	N	H	I	C	U	E	N	A	A	N
E	M	O	H	L	T	O	J	N	H	N	B	G	E	A
R	A	R	O	D	R	O	W	R	G	D	P	N	V	W
C	N	E	Z	S	Q	G	L	V	Q	R	T	D	G	O
R	E	S	I	H	G	U	P	B	M	X	A	D	G	G
U	Q	T	Z	P	P	A	P	J	D	I	X	Y	Q	U
I	X	F	P	U	P	V	D	F	O	N	L	Y	M	T
X	E	I	V	E	E	R	R	V	T	C	L	L	E	I
E	V	E	R	T	V	S	A	Q	W	F	T	D	S	E
V	B	L	F	V	M	I	O	P	M	J	D	T	B	W
E	L	D	X	V	L	N	H	S	Q	X	G	R	T	M

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. roman | 2. mills | 3. gowanbrae | 4. hoard |
| 5. blotting | 6. forestfield | 7. paper | 8. auchingray |
| 9. hillend | 10. caldercruix | | |

Made with Dictionary.com

Greengairs & Wattston Word Search

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

T	R	O	W	G	A	R	U	H	S	N	N	Q	Z	F
W	R	T	S	D	N	A	L	K	N	O	M	Q	D	H
W	H	Z	F	K	G	L	Y	J	I	F	R	Z	U	R
U	D	T	L	L	C	H	A	M	O	M	I	L	E	E
X	Z	O	Z	O	I	L	V	X	Y	T	Q	P	H	A
U	U	E	L	L	E	R	T	S	I	P	I	P	V	F
E	L	O	V	R	E	T	A	W	X	B	C	D	R	Y
D	J	A	D	W	A	T	T	S	T	O	N	M	X	D
X	C	B	B	M	N	F	U	B	N	M	D	G	P	R
T	L	H	I	L	L	R	I	G	G	U	Y	A	Q	U
G	E	G	R	E	E	N	G	A	I	R	S	O	J	M
N	O	O	H	O	Z	S	O	T	T	E	R	D	L	G
V	H	J	D	G	H	R	O	Y	S	U	R	Q	R	R
E	J	V	E	R	S	H	C	U	F	V	A	H	T	A
E	E	O	A	S	N	Q	F	D	Z	V	Q	W	V	Y

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. otter | 2. drumgray | 3. watervole | 4. greengairs |
| 5. ragwort | 6. pipistrelle | 7. monklands | 8. wattston |
| 9. hillrigg | 10. chamomile | | |

Made with Dictionary.com

Harthill, Eastfield & Greenrigg Word Search

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

V	K	X	B	S	K	N	Y	Z	U	G	C	E	O	C
P	F	W	N	C	M	F	U	H	T	I	L	A	W	V
J	E	W	B	E	N	H	A	R	E	N	A	S	V	O
N	G	D	E	P	B	O	L	W	M	Z	P	T	E	U
O	F	K	E	D	L	C	E	T	M	P	A	F	F	S
R	X	M	O	N	F	B	G	R	E	M	A	I	V	A
S	K	Y	L	A	R	K	D	E	K	F	O	E	G	W
F	V	X	Y	P	V	Q	G	R	L	B	G	L	F	D
E	S	Y	E	L	I	V	W	A	O	X	V	D	N	N
K	E	F	I	A	X	D	S	H	P	B	V	W	F	G
V	V	C	L	L	L	I	H	T	R	A	H	B	H	I
G	L	P	L	O	I	Z	Y	G	P	O	Q	S	Y	L
N	Y	S	I	E	D	G	G	I	R	N	E	E	R	G
J	O	J	A	Y	R	A	L	L	I	T	I	R	F	P
I	G	I	B	S	H	Z	L	A	C	P	I	A	F	T

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. baillie | 2. skylark | 3. harthill | 4. peden |
| 5. polkemmet | 6. fritillary | 7. hare | 8. eastfield |
| 9. greenrigg | 10. benhar | | |

Made with Dictionary.com



Plains Word Search

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.



Word Bank

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. northcalder | 2. otter | 3. ardenrigg | 4. snipe |
| 5. plains | 6. fritillary | 7. stepends | 8. ballochney |
| 9. arbuckle | 10. airdriehill | | |

Made with Dictionary.com

Upperton Word Search

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

M Y K M R A F D O M V W F N O
I T V W D L L I H N E K C U L
E S K J Z E O X P Q D T R N L
E G E E O D A Z U S B G O X O
H L H O S P I T A L I K Y T N
N W A Z V K M N G A E E V X G
J C T D O F O P V I U Q T S R
T G H N A T B R I Y D N M L I
X M Q J R M E C D N E Q I S G
I G C E R D A U M C A D N T G
D Y P X O A A C S Z N Z I B E
H P A J I V F E S N R O N N N
U C J C O P R C O O R J G K D
N L X N Z C H T W J P J J G K
Y B O B M Y S L P S N D M S S

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. dervaig | 2. mining | 3. hospital | 4. crescent |
| 5. farm | 6. avon | 7. scamadale | 8. luckenhill |
| 9. upperton | 10. longriggend | | |

Made with Dictionary.com



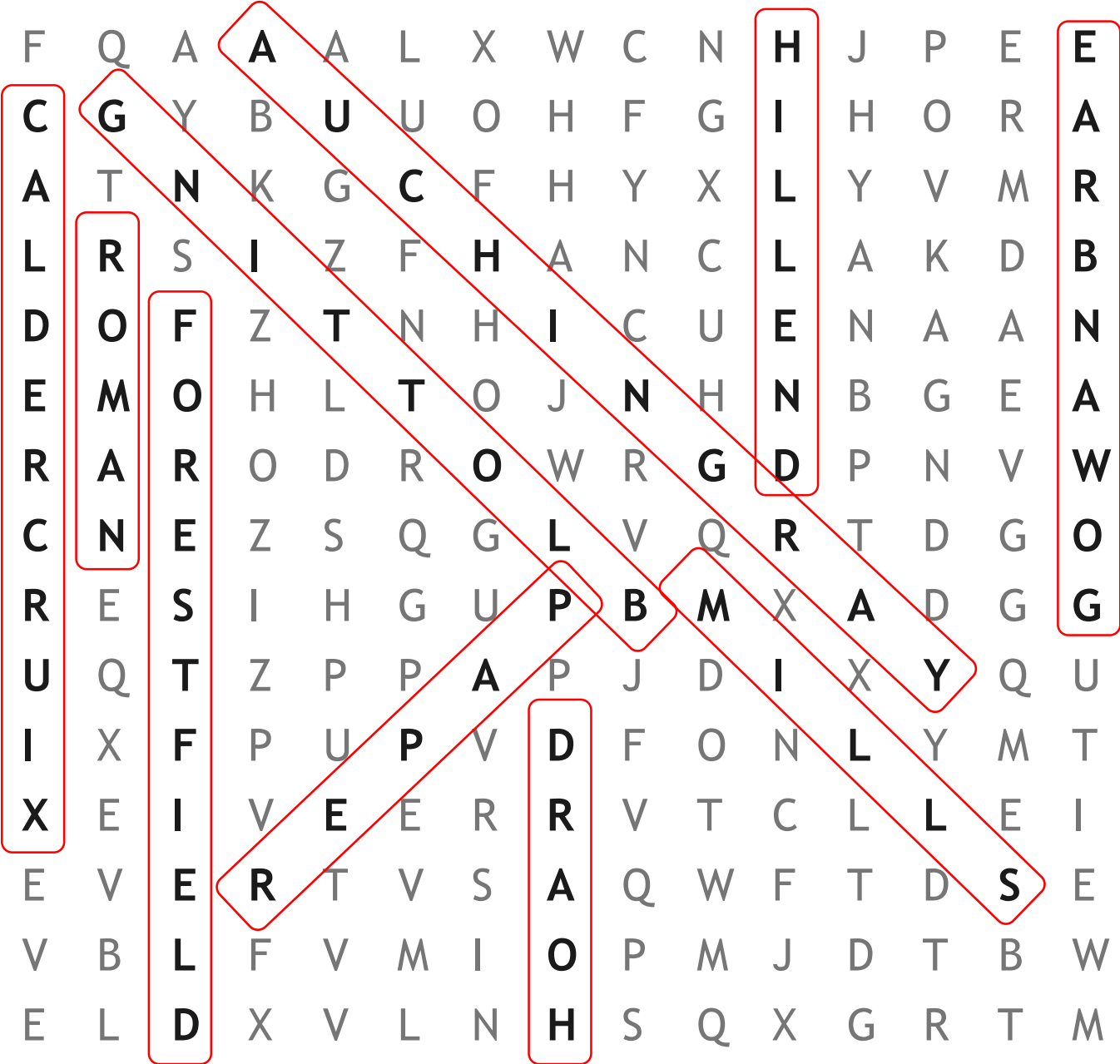
North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Program

Word Search – Answer Sheet

**For
Caldercruix
Greengairs and Wattston
Harthill, Eastfield and Greenrigg
Plains
Upperton**

Caldercruix Word Search

ANSWERS



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Greengairs & Wattston Word Search

ANSWERS

T	R	O	W	G	A	R	U	H	S	N	N	Q	Z	F
W	R	T	S	D	N	A	L	K	N	O	M	Q	D	H
W	H	Z	F	K	G	L	Y	J	I	F	R	Z	U	R
U	D	T	L	L	C	H	A	M	O	M	I	L	E	E
X	Z	O	Z	O	I	L	V	X	Y	T	Q	P	H	A
U	U	E	L	L	E	R	T	S	I	P	I	P	V	F
E	L	O	V	R	E	T	A	W	X	B	C	D	R	Y
D	J	A	D	W	A	T	T	S	T	O	N	M	X	D
X	C	B	B	M	N	F	U	B	N	M	D	G	P	R
T	L	H	I	L	L	R	I	G	G	U	Y	A	Q	U
G	E	G	R	E	E	N	G	A	I	R	S	O	J	M
N	O	O	H	O	Z	S	O	T	T	E	R	D	L	G
V	H	J	D	G	H	R	O	Y	S	U	R	Q	R	R
E	J	V	E	R	S	H	C	U	F	V	A	H	T	A
E	E	O	A	S	N	Q	F	D	Z	V	Q	W	V	Y

Harthill, Eastfield & Greenrigg Word Search

ANSWERS



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Plains Word Search

ANSWERS

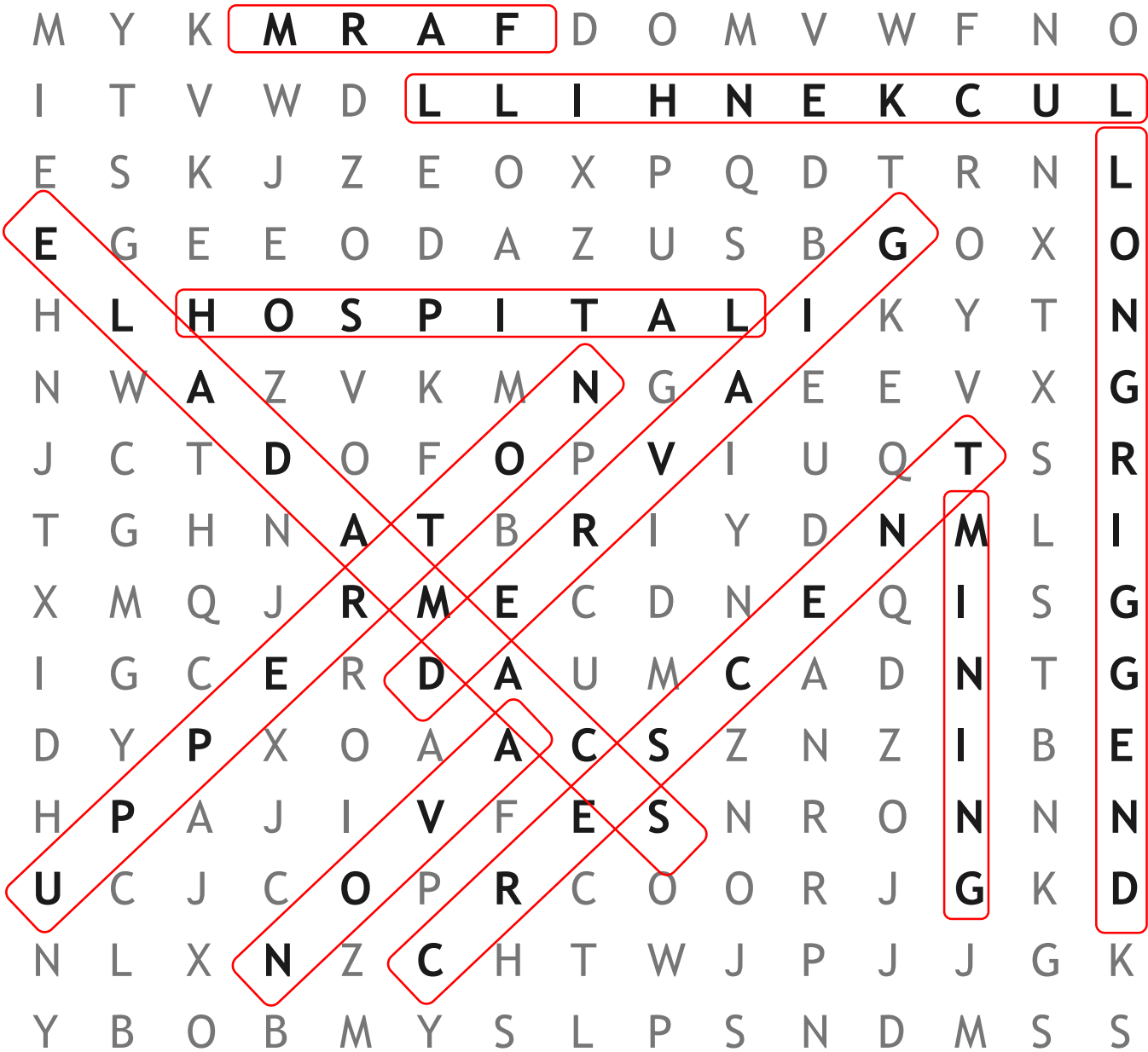
X	U	E	W	H	E	E	S	A	E	I	I	S	R	A
B	R	I	E	S	K	R	E	T	T	O	B	W	A	I
F	E	Y	E	N	H	C	O	L	L	A	B	J	P	I
W	X	E	R	J	I	Z	M	R	B	P	T	M	M	U
L	A	V	R	Y	R	A	L	L	I	T	I	R	F	V
G	I	F	H	A	P	W	G	A	P	Q	T	Y	D	E
G	R	P	F	W	J	P	T	I	V	W	S	J	T	W
I	D	E	C	R	E	D	L	A	C	H	T	R	O	N
R	R	L	T	W	S	N	I	A	L	P	Q	Y	O	U
N	I	K	J	B	X	X	S	J	E	X	I	A	B	D
E	E	C	I	Z	I	N	E	D	H	G	S	W	E	F
D	H	U	X	R	W	P	R	V	X	K	R	U	E	K
R	I	B	O	B	I	U	N	Z	L	W	N	V	A	C
A	L	R	S	N	S	T	E	P	E	N	D	S	U	K
Q	L	A	S	L	H	Q	W	F	X	O	J	Z	K	T

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Upperton Word Search

ANSWERS



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Local History relating to villages in rural North Lanarkshire



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RURAL DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The Stanrigg Disaster

In July 1918 many of the villages surrounding the Stanrigg colliery were impacted by the Stanrigg disaster.

In the 19th and early 20th Century, coal mining was one of the main sources of employment for families living in Lanarkshire. It was common for children as young as 14 to leave school and start work in the mines.

Coal was needed to heat homes, for industry and for transport. However, it could be a dangerous job.

In July 1918, after two weeks of constant rain, the moss (peat bog) above and surrounding the colliery at Stanrigg had soaked up the rainwater until it became saturated and could no longer contain the water. Instead of remaining where it was, the moss above the coal mine started to move and a mixture of water and peat flooded into the mine.

Over 70 men were in the pit when this happened but a young worker called John McCabe ran into the mine to warn of the danger. John helped to save many lives and was awarded a medal for his bravery. He was also presented with a pocket watch from the Trustees of the Carnegie Hero Fund.

Sadly, despite the desperate efforts to rescue the miners who remained underground, 19 miners lost their lives. All of the villages surrounding the mine were impacted by this disaster and several families lost more than one family member.

The disaster had a huge impact on the villages surrounding the colliery at Stanrigg.

A memorial is located between Plains and Greenrigg.

The Stanrigg Memorial is a reminder of the danger faced by miners and is a tribute to the miners who lost their lives.



Photograph of the Stanrigg memorial



Approach to the Stanrigg memorial



Photograph taken at the memorial

North Lanarkshire Rural Heritage Program

Activities



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RURAL DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Sandbox Archaeology Worksheet

Over the years objects from older civilisations can get covered by layers of dirt and dust. When archaeologists dig, they are trying to carefully remove these layers of dirt and dust to locate objects that will tell them about more about people in the past.

Note to adults organising this activity: you will need a small box with enough play sand to cover a few objects. Objects should be suitable for handling by children e.g. no sharp edges, no objects that could break easily or small objects that could be swallowed.

To dig in the sandbox you will need a small trowel, a small brush, a ruler and a piece of paper to record your finds. Pick one of the artefacts that you find and make a record of it.

- Can you measure it with a ruler?

.....

- Can you draw what it looks like?

.....

- What is it made from?

.....

- What do you think it was used for?

.....

Make a record of your artefact



Children's Heritage Plan – Wildlife and nature

**With thanks to The National Lottery Heritage Fund and National Lottery players.
Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, information, ideas and
suggestions to help produce this Children's Heritage Plan**

**This Heritage Plan is part of the North Lanarkshire Rural Communities Heritage
Program and is part of a set of 5 heritage plans for communities in Caldercruix,
Greengairs and Wattston, Harthill, Eastfield and Greengairs, Plains and Upperton.**