

OFFICIAL GIRLGUIDING ACTIVITY

Adapted from Rangers UMA "Mission to Moth"
by Girlguiding Middlesex East for Camp 2020 -
The Home Edition, July 2020.

Rangers Activity

Mission to moth

Aim: To find out how to attract moths by making moth feed. You'll also find out about other nocturnal wildlife in your area.

The smallest moths in the world are microscopic, and the largest is the size of a dinner plate! In the UK there are more than 2,500 species of moth, with the 3 most common being the Feathered Thorn, Angle Shades and Poplar Hawk-moth.

1. Mix two spoons of brown sugar with enough beer/cola to dissolve it in your pot/bowl. Mash in your banana. This should create the smell of rotting fruit - a moth's favourite food!
2. Take your mixture, a pillowcase/T-shirt, torch, paintbrush and pegs outside, and find a space to set up.
3. Hang your pillowcase/T-shirt from something using your pegs and shine a light on it using the torch. This will attract months sensitive to light.
4. Find another area closeby, and using your paintbrush paint a rock with your beer/cola & banana mixture to attract other moth species.
5. Now it's time to wait! Try and be as quiet & still as possible to get the best visitors. Can you identify the moths that appear?
6. While you're waiting, have a look around to see if you can see any other nocturnal wildlife!



Dusky Thorn Moth