

Reading: Arboreal animals and plants



1

This is mistletoe. It grows on tree branches. The plant is a parasite. It takes water and nutrients from the tree. But mistletoe is important because many birds and animals eat

Next time you go to a forest, remember that one tree can be the home of many mammals, insects, birds and different types of plants and fungus.



2

This bird is called a woodpecker because it pecks tree trunks. It makes holes in the trunk. Its babies live in the hole. Woodpeckers eat insects that live in trees.



3

Some mushrooms grow on tree trunks, but don't eat them. Some of them are poisonous.



4

Squirrels live in nests in trees. They build their nests high in the tree for protection from predators. Their favourite food is nuts.



5

These beetles lay their eggs in dead trees. When the larvae are born, they eat the dead wood.

1. Match.

Which animals eat nuts?

Where do some mushrooms grow?

Why is mistletoe important?

Which animals eat insects?

Which animals eat dead wood?

Squirrels eat nuts.

Mistletoe is important
because many birds and
animals eat it.

Beetles and their larvae eat
dead wood.

Woodpeckers eat insects.
Some mushrooms grow on tree
trunks.

2. Write sentences using the words in the box.

A squirrel

A mushroom

Mistletoe

A woodpecker

A beetle

insect

plant

mammal

fungus

bird

A squirrel is a mammal.

3. Correct the sentences.

Mistletoe grows on tree leaves.

Beetles lay their eggs in tall trees.

All mushrooms grow on tree trunks.

Squirrels live in houses in trees.

Woodpeckers eat mushrooms.