

Curlew Nature Numbers

Every year, biologists visit curlew **breeding sites** (places where they have their nests and raise their chicks) to count how many curlews there are in different breeding sites across the UK.

Population means the number of individuals living in an area, for example we could talk about the population of curlews in the whole of the UK, or the population of curlews in County Durham, or in one breeding site.

The table below shows the population of curlews at one breeding site where biologists count them every 5 years. It is easier to see the changes in the curlew population if we plot the numbers in a line graph.

Year	Number of curlews in the breeding area
1970	15
1975	25
1980	20
1985	13
1990	10
1995	15
2000	13
2005	8
2010	4
2015	5
2020	?

Activity:

Fill in the graph below to see what is happening to the curlew population at this breeding site. This graph looks similar for many curlew breeding sites across the UK. This is why curlews are now protected by law. Lots of people are working to look after the curlews and in some places the population is getting bigger.

Curlew
population
at breeding
site

