

PAPA HERNE'S GLOSSARY OF FOREST HOMES

Every creature needs somewhere safe to call home. Here are a few habitats that Forest Keepers look after.

Bed: The place on the ground where a deer sleeps. Beds are made of flattened bracken, grass or leaves.

Burrow: A tunnel or hole dug out for habitation. Frogs, foxes, badgers, rabbits, lizards and some birds, such as kingfishers, burrow into the ground.

Den: Foxes make their homes by burrowing underground. Dens have a tunnel with a chamber or chambers for raising their young and storing food. Sometimes foxes live in unused setts or warrens.

Drey: Squirrels make their ball-shaped nests in trees using twigs and leaves. They are lined with soft moss and feathers.

Eyrie: The nest of an eagle, hawk, or other bird of prey. Eyries are perched high up, in tall trees, or on rocky ledges. They are made using branches and sticks, and lined with heather and grasses.

Form: Hare homes are made by flattening grass on the ground.

Hive: Bees make their homes by eating honey and turning it into beeswax, which they produce from their abdomen. Hives consist of sheets of hexagonal cells with evenly set spaces in between for the bees to walk on.

Nest: Birds make cup-shaped structures to shelter their eggs and raise their young. Nests are made using mud and twigs, and lined with moss, feathers, grasses and leaves. Tawny owls like to nest in hollow trees, but sometimes they use crows' nests or dreys.

Roost: Birds, like most bats, rest in the high branches of trees. Most owls live alone, roosting in a tree hollow or tree hole.

Sett: Badgers make their homes underground and keep them very clean. Setts are a maze of tunnels and chambers for sleep and raising their cubs.

Warren: Rabbits make their own homes underground too, in a series of interconnecting tunnels and chambers for sleeping and nesting. Warrens have different entrances so rabbits can make a quick escape.