Defence against the dark arts

What is a predator?

A predator is an organism that eats another organism.

We are all predators feeding on other animals or plants in order to survive.
e.g Lions, bears, rabbits (feed on green plants), spiders and many more

Can you name some examples of predators?

What is prey?

The prey is the poor victim that is being fed upon
e.g a Lion (predator) may feast on a Zebra (prey)

In order for us all to survive we all need each other. If the prey part of the predator's environment dies and no other food source is available then they will die also. (See food webs/chains) This has a knock on affect and can wipe out entire species.

Predators evolve to become better hunters and prey evolve to become better at avoiding predators; speed, camouflage, good senses, immunity to preys poison

Can you think of other adaptations that predators might adopt to help them capture their prey?

Can you find examples of species that are good predators?

Badgers

Badgers have few natural enemies. The cubs are more vulnerable and may be taken by larger carnivores and birds of prey.

Can you give examples of predators that badgers may face?

How are badgers adapted to fighting of predators?

What colour is a badgers face?

Badgers have a distinct warning coloration similar to the banding found on wasps. This sends out the message to predators "Attack if you dare, I am strong and may know kung fu"

The hoverfly benefits also from having warning colouration, although harmless it looks like a wasp.

Can you find out what other methods animals and plants have developed to prevent being eaten?

Now you are a top wildlife expert and can easily tell the difference between a predator and prey.

Can you spilt the species at the bottom into two groups?

Predators	Prey

Lions, Deer, Badgers, foxes, rabbits, trees, flowers, bees, spider, ladybug, cat, dog, vole, mouse, badger, newt, dragonfly, bee, buzzard, Robin, human, penguin, Shark, dolphin, snake, fungi, woodlouse, beetle, lichen
This is not as easy as it seems, some or all may fit into both groups.