

KS2 – Mapping the Black Grouse

Population

This means the number of individuals in a particular area. You could talk about the population of people in your classroom or the population of people in the whole school.

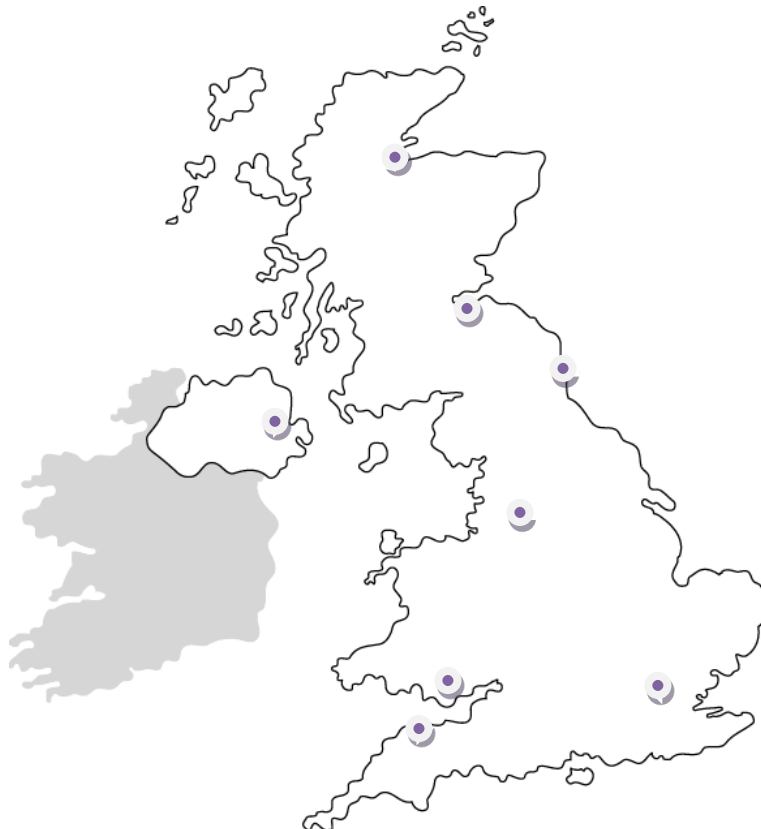
- What is the population of girls in your class?
- What is the population of boys in your class?

The population might not be people, you might want to talk about the population of slugs that live in your strawberry patch or the population of sparrows that visit the school grounds. For our investigations we are going to be looking at the population of black grouse in the whole of Britain and how it has changed over time. Do you think it will have increased, decreased or stayed the same?

Activity:

Look at an outline map of Britain. Can you label the different countries that make up Britain? There are eight dots on the map marking the location of eight cities. Work out which of the following cities is represented by each dot:

London
Exmoor
Edinburgh
Cardiff
Inverness
Belfast
Newcastle
Manchester





Use the Mapping the Black Grouse Worksheet to see how the population of the black grouse has changed in Britain over the years. Read through the information below and colour in the first map (Black grouse population before 1910) to show which areas of Britain black grouse were found before 1910. Next colour in the second and third maps to show which areas of Britain had black grouse living in them in 1910 and 2014.

Black grouse used to be common across most of Britain but by 1910 there were none found in Southern England except for a small population around Exmoor. In 2014 the black grouse were only found in Scotland, Northern England above Newcastle and in North Wales

What has happened to the black grouse population over the last 105 years?

What do you think the map will look like by 2050?