

# Mintlings

by THE ROYAL MINT



the  
Hare

the  
Salmon

the  
Horse

the  
Bull

the  
Pig

## Animals on Coins

Our Animals on Coins Collection takes a look at some of the animals that have appeared on the reverse of coins throughout history, giving you a fun new way to discover the joy of collecting.

Over the next few pages you will find a variety of activities celebrating some animals that have appeared on coins produced by The Royal Mint throughout history, including coins that were first struck for the Irish Free State in the twentieth century and for a British farthing made for George VI.

Turn the page to find out more about these charming animals and why they were chosen to appear on coins.

the  
Wren

the  
Wolf  
hound



the  
Wood  
cock

the  
Hen  
and  
chicks

Although they were called the Irish Free State coins, these were actually produced by The Royal Mint.





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## Why are there Animals on Coins?

Animals have appeared on coins for centuries, from medieval times to the modern-day coins of His Majesty King Charles III. Countries often choose to include animals native to them or those that are important to their culture, such as the designs chosen for the Irish Free State coinage in the early twentieth century.



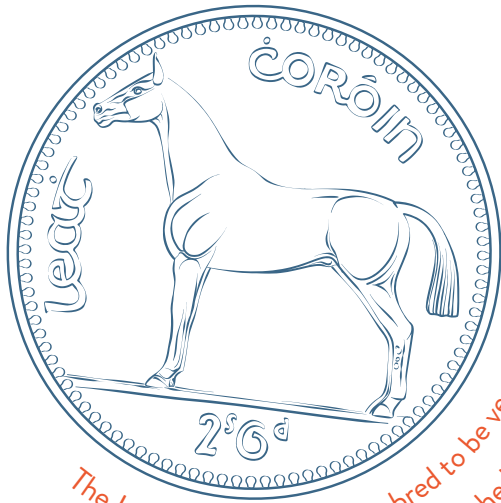
## Did you know?

The eight animals chosen all related to Irish culture and heritage.

tHe  
IrISH  
Free  
StaTe  
coINs



The wren was designed as a coin for Edward VIII, but the monarch abdicated before any could be struck for circulation.



The Irish Draught horse was bred to be versatile so that Irish farmers could use them for working the land and also for hunting.

## Did you know?

The Irish Draught are still used as police horses because of their fantastic temperament.

Several breeds of cattle originate in Ireland, and Percy Metcalfe was asked to base his work on a Kerry bull when refining his design.



## Animals Wordsearch

Can you find all of the animals hidden in our wordsearch?

HARE  
WOODCOCK  
CHICKS  
HORSE

WOLFHOUND  
WREN  
PIG

BULL  
HEN  
SALMON

W	C	B	U	N	N	P	R	Q	I	J	C	Z	R
M	O	D	O	E	R	K	Y	N	S	G	U	X	R
X	H	O	H	N	S	V	P	Y	W	P	H	J	W
C	Q	W	D	L	E	D	X	H	N	L	I	O	A
H	T	T	D	C	B	S	W	M	A	I	L	Z	B
I	I	T	M	X	O	I	K	J	U	F	S	C	T
C	M	L	H	D	F	C	K	B	H	I	W	S	R
K	X	G	O	W	F	F	K	O	S	F	H	Y	L
S	J	R	R	O	I	P	U	G	Q	D	B	T	A
Z	C	E	S	W	F	N	U	X	I	V	Z	A	M
C	A	R	E	G	D	F	U	O	I	P	V	L	T
H	A	R	E	S	A	L	M	O	N	A	K	L	C
Q	U	G	V	J	T	I	J	N	E	R	W	U	U
Z	D	Y	O	X	Q	Y	G	W	U	O	H	B	B



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## the Hare

### Did you know?

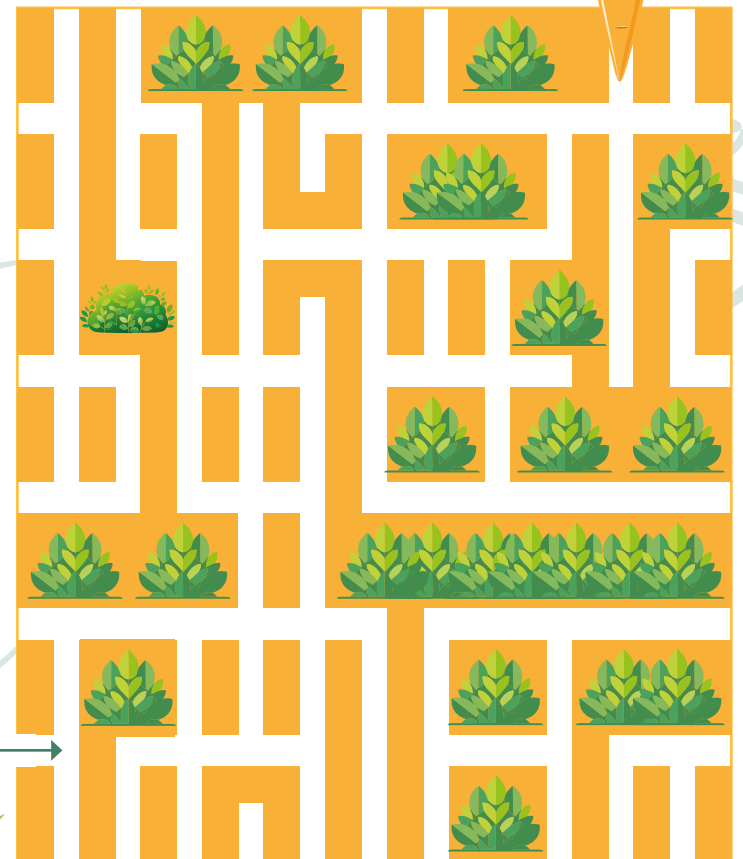
Female hares can often be spotted 'boxing' at unwanted suitors.

The Irish hare is mostly nocturnal and can be found nesting above ground in 'forms'.



## Hare-Raising Maze

Can you help the hare find the right path to the carrot?  
Hop to it!



## the Woodcock

Woodcocks are nocturnal and notoriously difficult to spot because their plumage blends in so well with their surroundings.



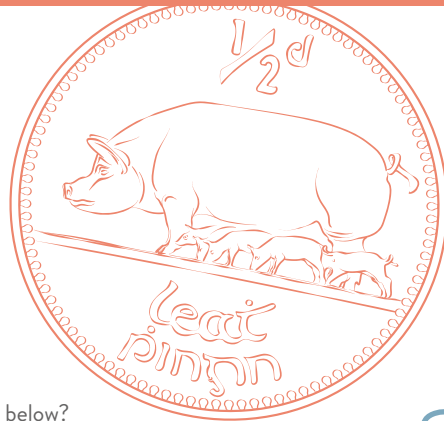
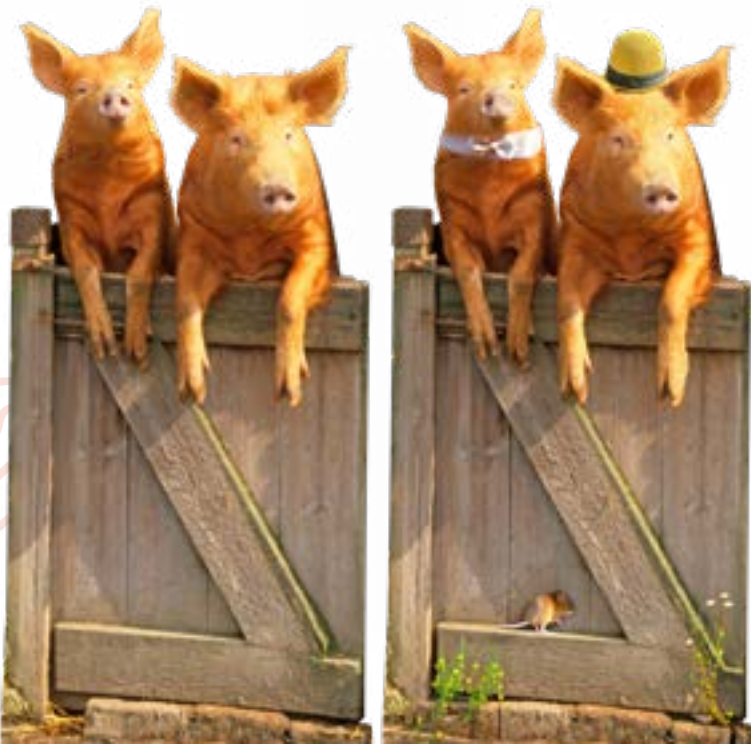
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## Spot the Difference

Can you spot all seven differences in the piggy pictures below?

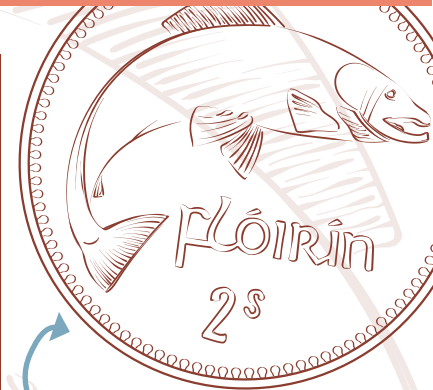
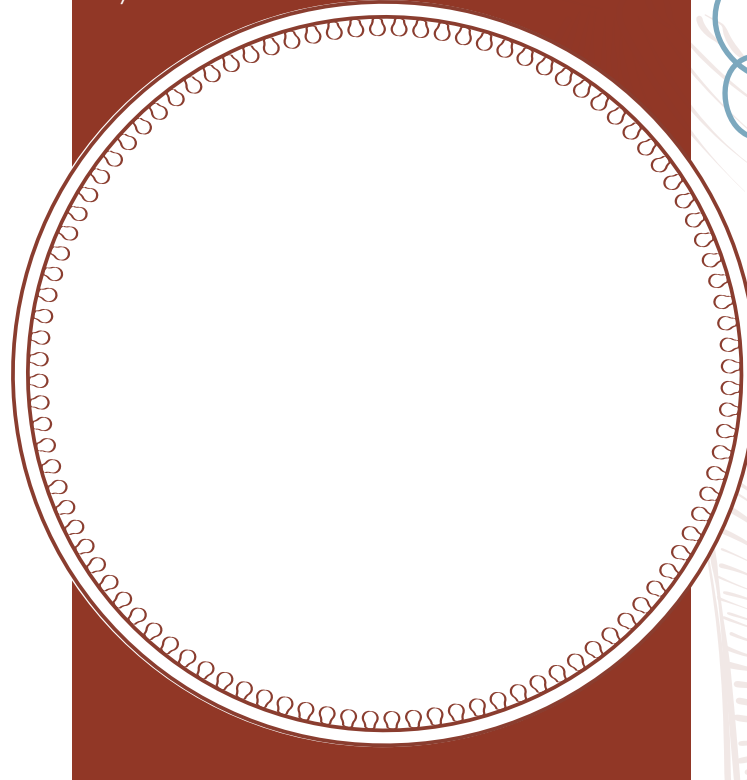


## Did you know?

A swine breed that originated in Ireland was the Greyhound pig; however, this had a relatively low yield of meat, so was crossbred with other breeds of pig. This newer crossbreed became so popular that the original Greyhound breed became extinct.

## Design Your Own Animal Coin

Now it's your turn! Embrace your wild side and design your favourite animal on a coin. Think about whether this animal has any distinctive features that you think makes it special. Or is there a particular animal that is important in your culture?



## Did you know?

That salmon have a different name depending on their stage in the lifecycle?

They can be known as alevins, fry, parr and smolts.