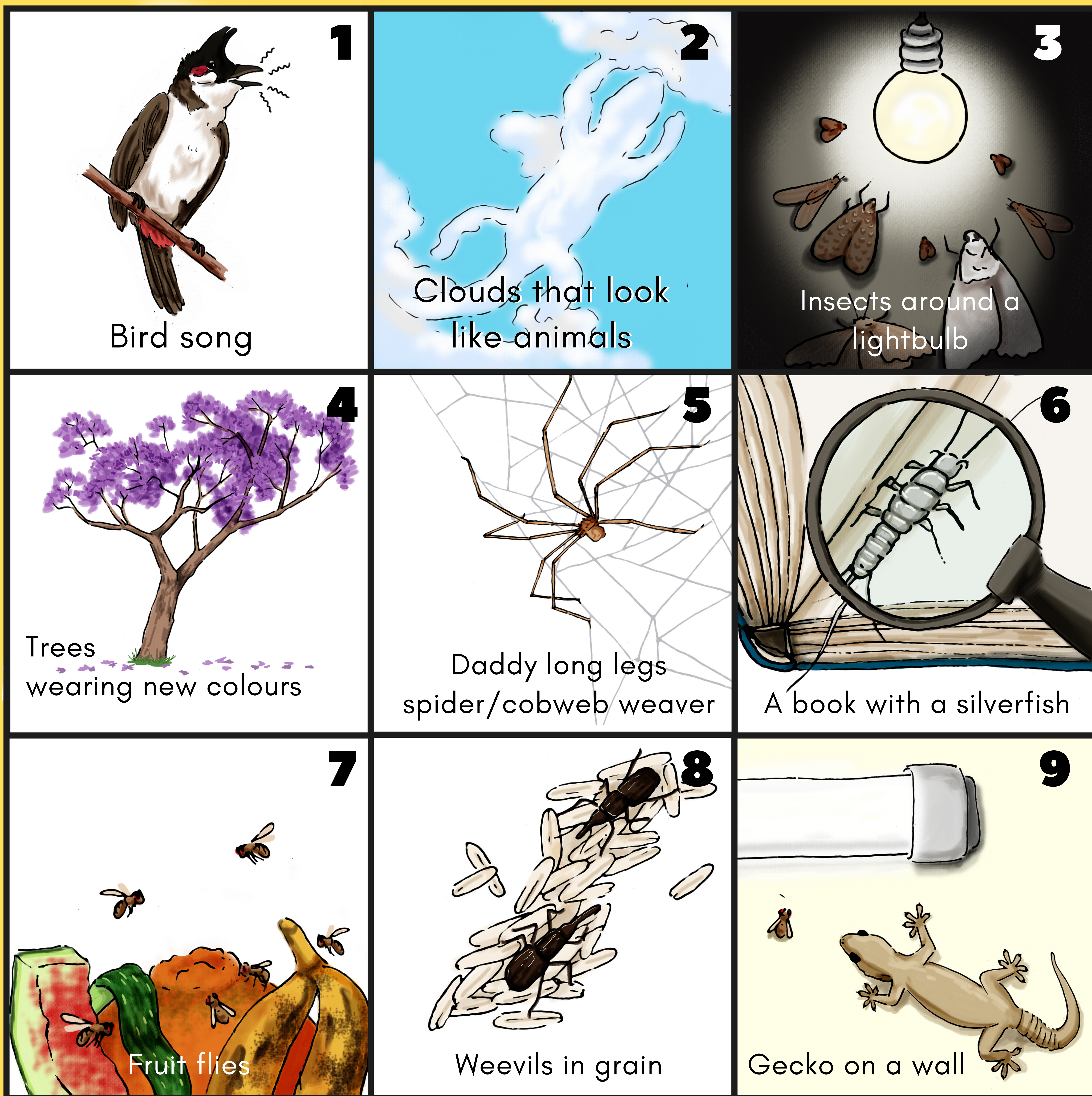


Hidden Housemates (1)

It may surprise you, but you don't need to go outside to experience nature! Look around your home, through a window, behind a door or under a flowerpot – find any three down or across and say **BINGO!**



Do you want to know more about the creatures and the plants in this Bingo? Explore the following **resources** (page 2) and **nature activities** (page 4) you can do from your home!



Tip: No need for a print out! Draw and number it for yourself on a piece of paper!





Further Reading

Want to know more about your natural neighbours? Here are a few resources you can explore! Match them to the creature or plant through the numbers in the Bingo square.

1 Bird song: Sounds are often the best way to find out that birds are around. Have you tried listening to the birds around you?

- Tuning in to bird sounds: <https://birdcount.in/getting-started-5-bird-sounds/>

2 Clouds that look like animals: All you have to do is look outside your window to see clouds of different shapes and sizes. Do any of them look like an animal, bird, insect, spider? Also, use your imagination and make your cloud look like whatever you want!

- Animals in clouds: <https://mothernatured.com/animal-play/finding-animals-in-clouds>
- Frogs raining from the sky: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHz6Wlc2MAI>

3 Insects around a light bulb: Many insects are attracted to light sources, and scientists have many theories about this. Some say the light source tells them the path is clear while others claim that they are mistaking these light sources for flowers! Or maybe they are there just for some warmth? What do you think?

- Why do moths like light bulbs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ul9HIX9YBbM>

4 Trees wearing new colours: As seasons and temperatures change, so do trees. Just before summer, many trees shed their old leaves and put out new leaves and flowers.

- Read more about spring and what it brings: <https://storyweaver.org.in/stories/71-everything-looks-new>
- <https://storyweaver.org.in/stories/90058-searching-for-the-spirit-of-spring>



5 Daddy long legs spider/cobweb weaver: You are likely to run into this spider in your home or bathroom. They usually hang upside down in their untidy webs known as cobwebs in corners of walls, where they wait for a juicy fly or mosquito to fly by...

- <http://natureatyourhome.biodiversityexhibition.com/en/card/daddy-long-leg-spider>
- Off to See Spiders (short story): <https://storyweaver.org.in/stories/27612-off-to-see-spiders>

6 A book with a silverfish: Silverfish are small, silvery, wingless insects that move like fish and love sugary, starchy things to eat!

- <https://www.wildwanderer.com/silverfish-the-bookworm/>

7 Fruit flies: Small, winged insects that you can spot swarming near ripe and rotting fruits, vegetables and garbage and a favourite experimental insect for biologists. Don't miss their blood-shot red eyes!

- <https://kids.kiddle.co/Drosophila>

8 Weevils in grain: These really tiny black insects have long prominent snouts and love spending time in your uncooked rice and dals! What animal or bird does it remind you of?

- <https://kids.kiddle.co/Weevil>
- <https://thekidshouldseethis.com/tagged/weevil>

9 Gecko on a wall: The amazing Common House Gecko climbs walls, ceilings in search of insects. It's sure to announce it's presence with a "tuk tuk tuk" clicking call. Does the gecko in your house have a favourite place?

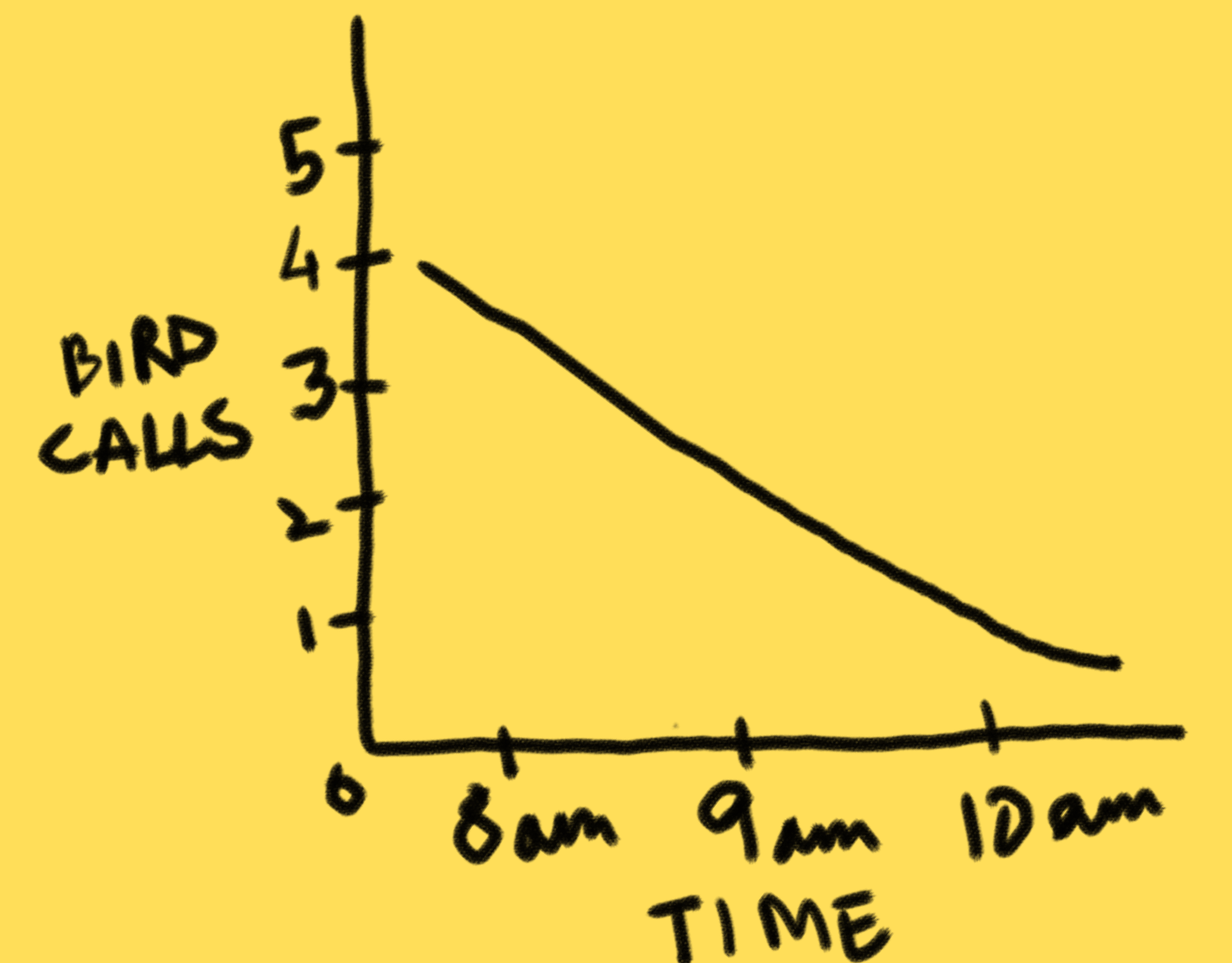
- How geckoes climb walls: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhfXbSSrabw>
- The science behind a gecko's climbing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YeSuQm7KfaE>
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reptiles/gecko/><https://www.anywhere.com/flora-fauna/reptile/house-gecko>



Activities

Time to be creative! Get to know your natural neighbours better through these special activities. Match the activity to the creature or plant through the numbers in the Bingo square.

- 1** Describe the sounds birds make – try and make a drawing or write about it. Note the time of day and variety of birds you hear, and make a graph. X axis: time of day, Y axis: number of different birdcalls you hear. Try and repeat this for 3–5 days. What time of the day are birds most talkative? Try and speak their language. Do they talk back to you?

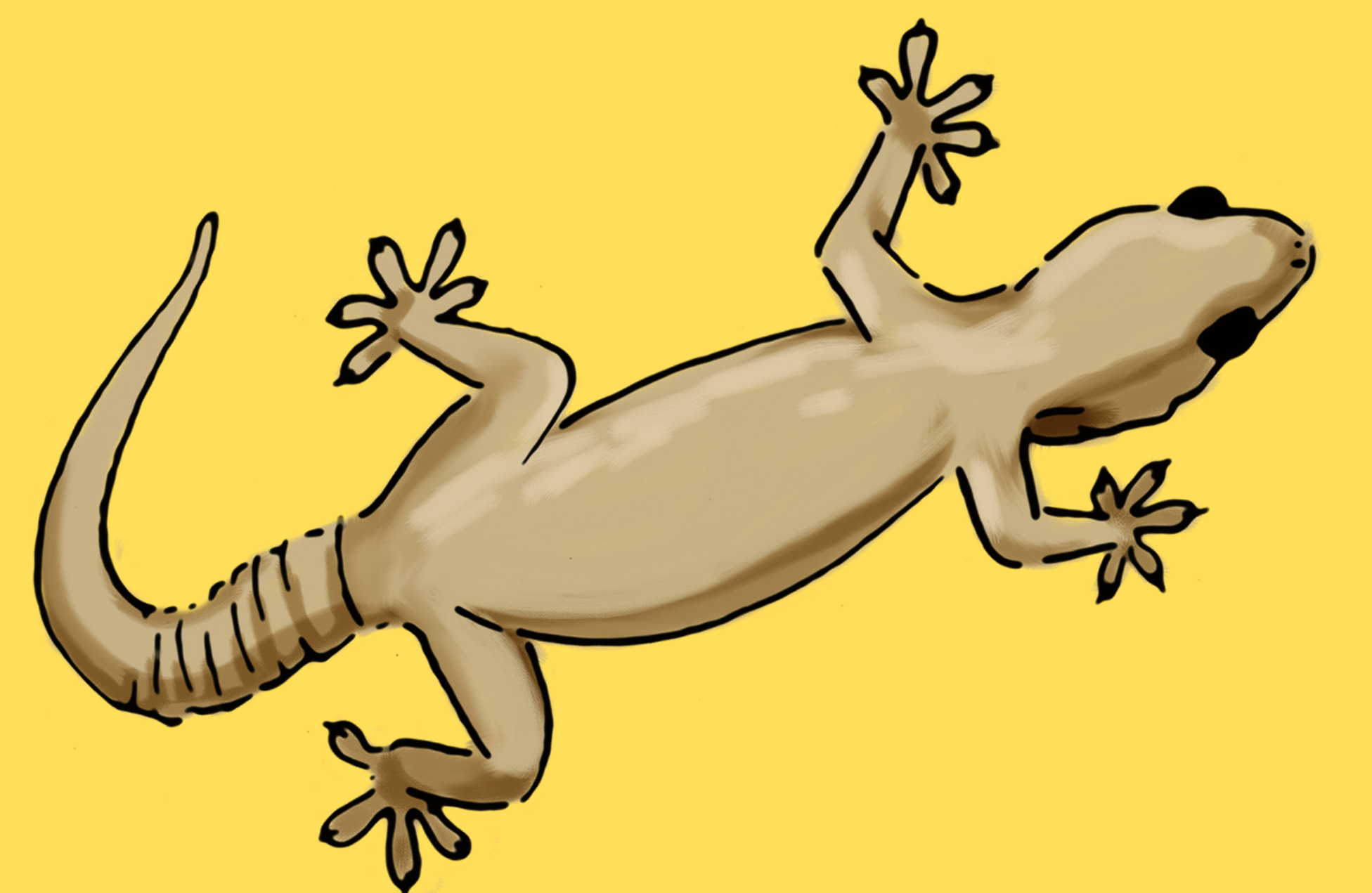



- 2** Look out of your window 3 times a day– do you see clouds? Can you make a graph to show if clouds are present in the morning, afternoon and evening? What kinds of clouds can you see – can you draw them?
- Make your own cloud: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44GH2gs8avo>

- 3** Why do insects gather around light bulbs/light sources? How many types of insects do you see? Are there any other animals that come? Choose a friend (one insect/animal), name them and observe them over the next few days. Do they return? Can you write a poem/story/song about them? Use your imagination and as many drawings as you like!

- 4** Just before summer, many trees shed their old leaves and put on new leaves and flowers...if there's a tree close to your house that you can see–what colours is it wearing? The trees' new flowers invite many birds, small animals and insects. Which of them do you see? If you were the tree, what colours would you wear? Who all would visit you during the day? Make a story about all your friends and your conversations with them.

- 5** Imagine if you had 8 eyes, 8 legs like a spider. How would your life change? Would you have to get new spectacles? What would your clothes look like? Make a drawing or a comic.





6 What do you think gives silverfish this name? How do they move? Can you try moving like them? If you could give this insect another name, what would it be and why?

7 Where in your home do you see fruit flies? Keep a record of what time of day they come and what they do. If you were a fruit fly in your home, what are some of the things you would see, smell and do? Write a story or create a comic.

8 Where do weevils come from? What are they doing in packets/containers of dal, rice, atta? Look at them closely-what colour, size, shape are they? Do you think weevils have a favourite food?

9 Imagine that you are a superhero called GeckGirl/GeckoGuy/GeckoKid! What are your superpowers? What do you eat and drink? What is your costume like? Do you fight crime? Dress up and give a speech to your family!

