



# To bog or not to bog? That is the question.

## Statements & Answers

| Round | Statement                                                                                              | Answer | Fact                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | Peatlands are the world's largest natural carbon store.                                                | True!  | Peatlands cover less than 3% of the world's land surface but are thought to contain twice as much carbon as the world's forests. This makes them a vital defence against the effects of climate change.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2     | Peat is made from a mix of sand and clay.                                                              | False! | Peat is made from partly decomposed plant material, mainly sphagnum moss, and forms in waterlogged conditions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 3     | Sphagnum moss which can be found on bogs can soak up to more than eight times its own weight in water. | True!  | The sphagnum moss on bogs is fed by rain water which is nutrient poor and slightly acidic. Due to a lack of oxygen and the waterlogged conditions, the sphagnum decomposes very, very slowly until it forms a dark brown peat soil.<br>Multi-coloured carpets of Sphagnum form the building blocks of peatlands with water being held in its spongy form. |
| 4     | Bogs provide places for animals to graze.                                                              | True!  | If managed carefully, cows, sheep and horses can be found grazing on bogs. The rushes that grow on bogs can also be cut to provide bedding for livestock.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 5     | Bogs provide food for humans.                                                                          | True!  | Blackberries, wild plums, elderberries, bilberries and cranberries can all be found growing wild on bogs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 6     | Peat soil has a moisture content of less than 50%.                                                     | False! | Peat found in wetlands is likely to have a moisture content of greater than 95% if in an undisturbed state. It is believed that there are more solids in milk than in peat!                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 7     | Damaged peatlands are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions.                                      | True!  | Peatlands annually release almost 6% of global CO <sub>2</sub> emissions. Peatland restoration can therefore bring significant emission reductions and help us fight climate change.                                                                                                                                                                      |



| Round | Statement                                                | Answer | Fact                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8     | Raised bogs can help prevent the risk of flooding.       | True!  | Peat bogs provide a unique service in the fight against flooding. Peat absorbs and slows down the flow of rainfall, helping to prevent flooding further downstream. |
| 9     | A 10-metre-deep peat bed takes a thousand years to form. | False! | A 10-metre deep peat bed takes 10,000 years to form. Peat soils accumulate at around 1mm every year so 1 metre of peat can take up to 1,000 years to form!          |

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