

Wildlife Warriors

Now we are all spending a lot more time at home, and the weather is improving (hopefully!), it is the perfect time to become Wildlife Warriors! This pack includes lots of activities that you can do to help you become one!

Doing these activities will help you to gain your Naturalist badge, and to start gaining your Animal Carer and Gardener badges. There will be a checklist at the end so you can see how much you have done towards each badge! You may find that one activity ticks off a requirement on more than one badge. Be sure to record what you have done through photos if possible so you can show your leaders and it can go towards the badge.

GROWN UPS:

More information about these badges can be found at the end of this pack including a checklist of what needs to be done to complete them. Please be aware that the purpose of this pack is not to complete badges but to allow your child to enjoy scouting activities whilst at home, and also provide the opportunity for them to tick off some badge requirements at the same time.

Get to know the local wildlife

Use the worksheet below to keep a record of bird, animal, and insect life either in your garden, outside your window or somewhere local you go on a regular walk (such as local park, field, or woodlands). As well as recording animal life, make sure to notice the changes in plant life too! (There is a similar activity later on in the pack about identifying species, you may want to combine the two activities)

Do this across a 3 month period to see what changes there are.

You may also take pictures, videos or audio recordings if you would prefer.

You may want to make some Wildlife Warrior binoculars to help you with your observations. An instruction sheet can be found below .

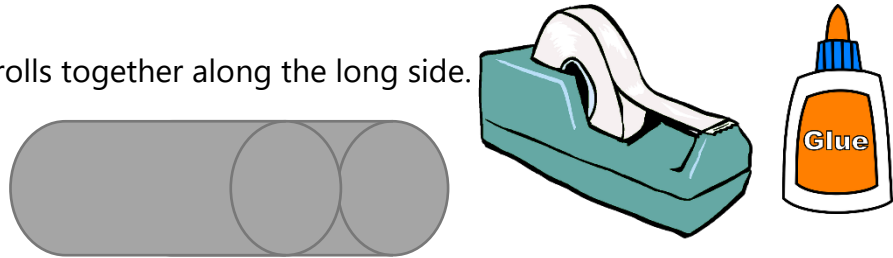
Wildlife Warrior Binoculars

Items needed:

- 2 toilet roll tubes
- String/ribbon/thin rope
- Glue/tape
- Anything you wish to decorate with (crayons, stickers, glitter, coloured paper etc)
- Hole punch/scissors

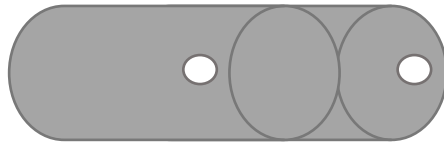
Step 1

Glue or tape the two toilet rolls together along the long side.



Step 2

With a grown-up's help, create a hole at one end on the outer side of each toilet roll.



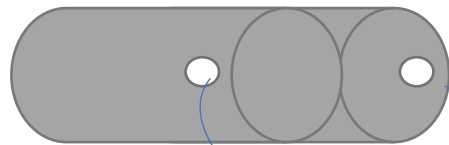
Step 3

With a grown-up's help cut a length of string/ribbon etc long enough to be passed over your head.



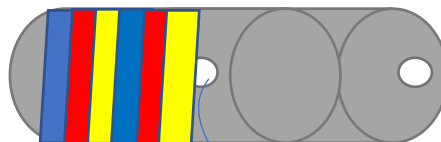
Step 4

Attach the string/ribbon to the binoculars using the holes already created.



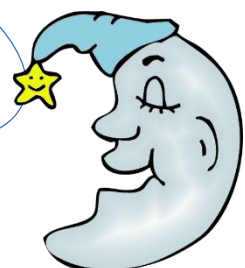
Step 5

Decorate the binoculars however you wish, using whatever materials you have at home.



Step 6

Allow the binoculars to dry, they will probably need to be left overnight.



Step 7

Use your new Wildlife Warrior binoculars to see what wildlife lives near your house!



Get to know the local wildlife!

Across 3 months use this worksheet (or other form of record such as photos and videos) to keep a record of animal/insect/bird and plant life in a natural area. Make a note of the changes you see! Feel free to draw pictures if you wish!

Week 1. Where have you chosen to record:

.....

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for recording observations for Week 1.

Week 2

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for recording observations for Week 2.

Week 3

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for recording observations for Week 3.

Week 4

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for notes or reflections for Week 4.

Week 5

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for notes or reflections for Week 5.

Week 6

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for notes or reflections for Week 6.

Week 7

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for notes or reflections for Week 7.

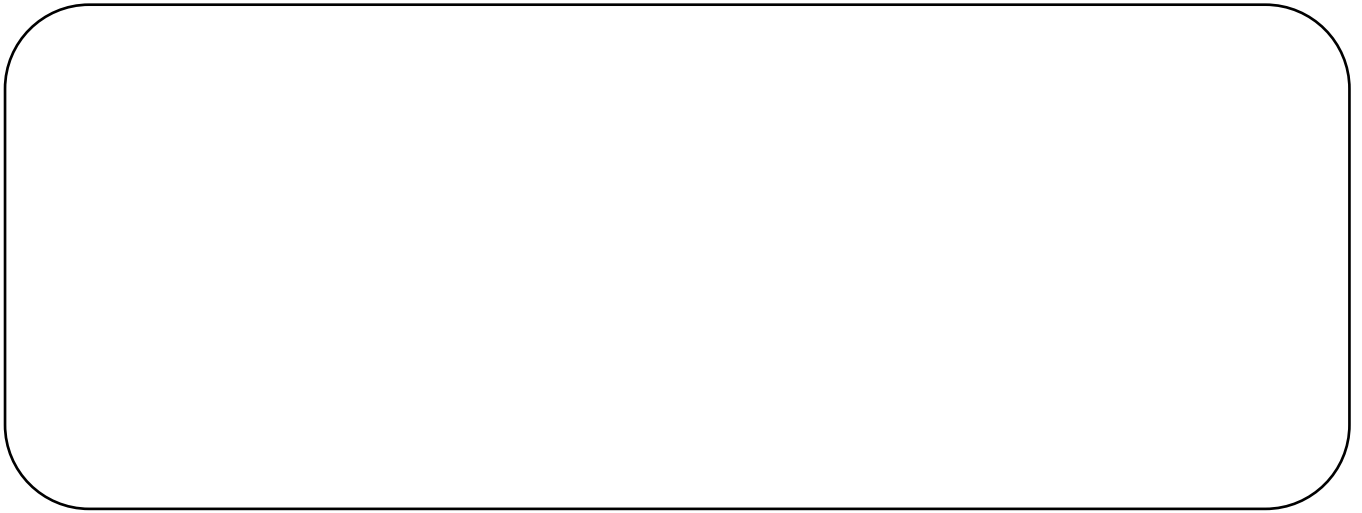
Week 8

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for notes or reflections for Week 8.

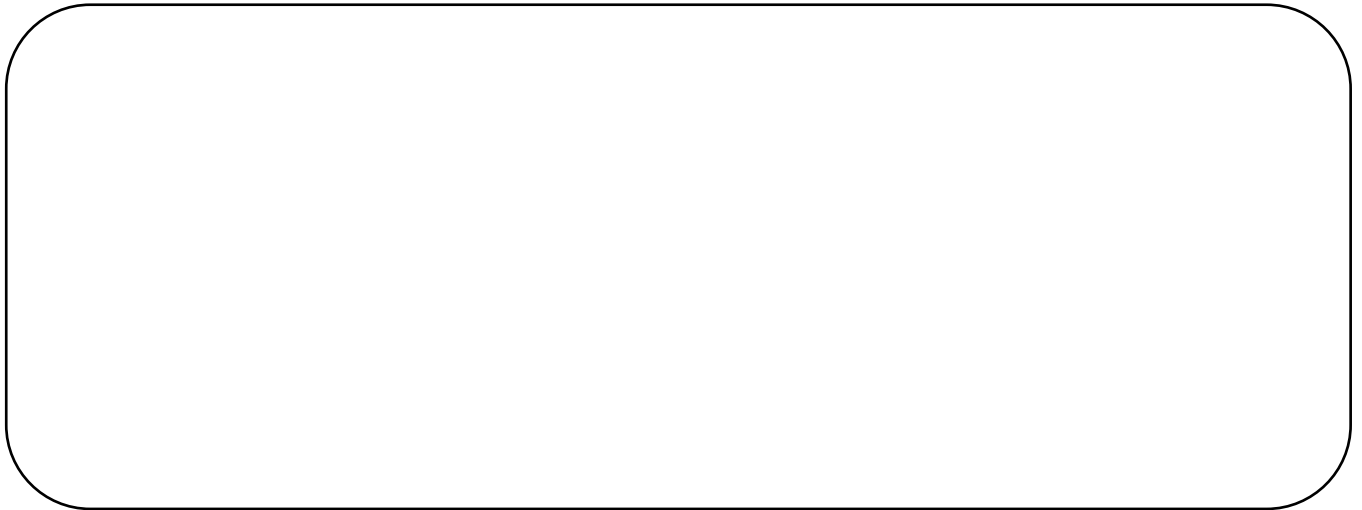
Week 9

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for notes or reflections for Week 9.

Week 10

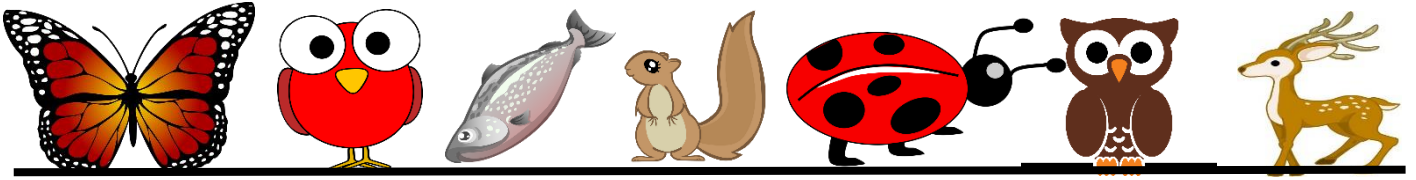
A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing or drawing during Week 10.

Week 11

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing or drawing during Week 11.

Week 12 (How much has the natural area changed? Have you enjoyed watching the wildlife in your local area? What have you learnt?)

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing or drawing during Week 12.



Now that we have started to discover the wildlife that lives around us, we should start to think about becoming Wildlife Warriors. To do this we need to know how to protect and look after our local wildlife.

Before we can protect our local wildlife, we need to learn about the threats that they face.

Complete the wordsearch below to discover some of the threats wildlife face.

Then do some of your own research to find out what each of the terms mean and how they affect our wildlife, and discover more about the dangers wildlife face. Here are some links to get you started.

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/animals-under-threat>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52185444>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zp22pv4>

<https://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/litter>

When you have finished learning about the threats wildlife face, make a poster, collage or drawing to tell other Cub Scouts what you found out.



Threats to Wildlife Wordsearch

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

CLIMATECHANGE

INVASIVESPECIES

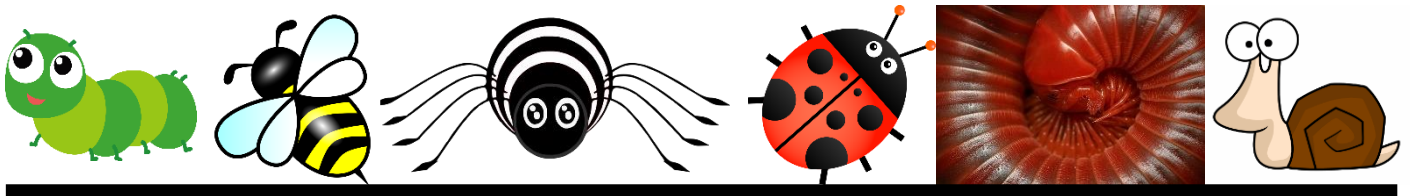
COMPETITION

POLLUTION

DISEASE

HUNTING

HABITATLOSS



Marvellous Minibeasts

Minibeasts often known as creepy crawlies, are often disliked and misunderstood. What many people don't realise is the benefits these minibeasts provide to our gardens and natural spaces.

Follow these links to learn some more about minibeasts

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/mini-beast-adventure-with-jess-minibeast-spotter?collection=fun-activities-to-do-with-older-kids>

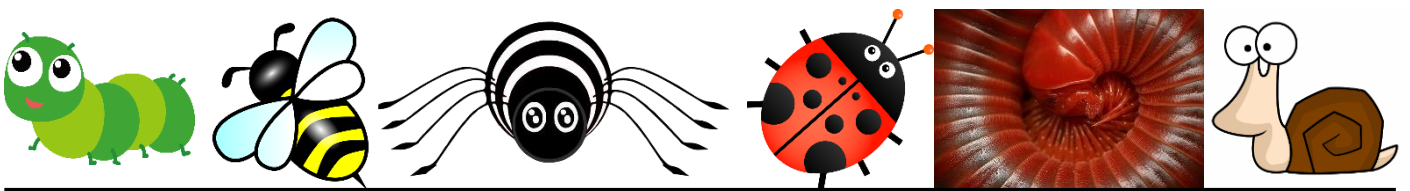
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882hv/articles/z9fkwmn>

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/insects/43.html> (this one tells you why insects are good or bad)

You may want to do some more research to find out why minibeasts are good for us to have around.

Once you have finished your research it is time to go minibeast hunting! If it is safe for you to do so, go into your garden or on one of your walks look in a bug hotel if you have access to one, or otherwise look under rocks, in bushes, on trees, on flowers or in soil to see what minibeasts you can find!

Record what you have found using the sheet below (and add any more you may have spotted)





Let's all go on a bug hunt!
How many can you spot?



Worm



Bumblebee



Ladybird



Moth



Snail



Spider



Millipede



Slug



Butterfly

Did you find them all?

Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use – and don't forget there are loads more brilliant activities to download on our website!

woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives | 0330 333 5301 | naturedetectives@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Search for 'nature detectives' | #NatureDetectives

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Identifying the wildlife around us

When you look in your garden, out of your window, or around on your walks you may wonder what different animals or plants are called.

For this activity you need to learn how to identify 12 different things. 6 things from 2 different groups (i.e. 6 different garden birds and 6 different trees).

It is up to you which two categories you would like to choose, maybe you are more likely to see one category than another because of where you live.

-trees -garden birds -water birds -minibeasts and insects -wild flowers -pond dwellers -fungi -butterflies and moths

When you have chosen your category download an identification sheet and get learning. When you are confident you can identify 12 different things (6 from each of your 2 categories), without your identification sheets, come up with a way to show your teacher you did this. You could record yourself identifying them, make a poster describing how you know which is which, or present it in another way that suits you.

Various websites have identifications sheets:

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/spotting-sheets> (for a variety of the categories)

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/tree-id-kids/> (for trees)

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/lesson-plans-and-supporting-resources/spot-it/> (various categories)

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wild-plants-nature/spotter-sheets> (various categories)





There are lots of things you may find in your garden or close to your house that you can use in a fun activity.

With your grown up's permission, you may like to try one of these activities using natural things you find in your garden or nearby!

- Leaf Printing (<https://theimaginationtree.com/leaf-printing-art/>)
- Noughts and Crosses (<https://blog.bay-bee.co.uk/stone-noughts-crosses-craft/>)
 - Bark (and other natural materials) rubbings (<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/11/tree-bark-crafts/>)

There are many ways we can be a Wildlife Warrior, such as recycling, saving water and electricity, walking to school or Cubs instead of going in the car, and many more.

You may want to go one step further and build or make something to help wildlife near you. Make sure you get a grown-up's help to do this.

Follow the links below for different projects to help local wildlife.

Bug Hotels

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/build-a-bug-hotel/> (This can be adapted based on what you have lying around)

Bird Feeders

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/makes/bird-feeder?collection=easy-craft-activities-for-kids> (Very easy)

Hedgehog House (For those up for a challenge)

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/08/how-to-make-hedgehog-house/>





Another way to protect wildlife is to know the Countryside Code and how to follow it. The countryside code tells us what we should and should not do when we are out and about in wildlife to protect both us and the wildlife that we are exploring.

Read through the countryside code, it's a big leaflet so you may need a grown-up or another family member to help you, or you may want to read it a bit at a time.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/701188/countryside-code.pdf

Now see if you can complete the sorting activity below!





The Countryside Code

Respect, Protect, Enjoy



Put the statements below in the correct box

Do



Block paths and gates

Slow down for walkers, horses, and other animals if you are on a bike

Leave a gate how you found it

Play with the farm animals

Climb over a wall instead of using a gate or stile

Do Not



Take some plants home with you

Take your rubbish home with you

Let your dog run around however it wants

Plan ahead and be prepared

Ignore signs

More Wildlife Warrior activities!

If this pack has got you excited about being a Wildlife Warrior (which I hope it has!), there are lots more activities waiting for you to do!

Follow these links for family activities all related to wildlife and the great outdoors.

<https://action.wildlifetrusts.org/page/57739/petition/1>

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/games-and-activities/activities/>

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/kids-nature-activities-self-isolation/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics/animals>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6882hv>

You may also be interested in becoming a member of a wildlife society that interests you, some even have award schemes like cubs does! See the links below to find a society that interests you!

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/Membership>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/join-and-donate/join-us/youth-membership/>

<https://www.mcsuk.org/join>

Badge Checklist

Here is your checklist to show what you have done towards each of the badges. I have highlighted the things that are to do with this pack!



Animal Carer
Supported by Pets at Home

Complete one of these:

- Take care of an animal for at least two months.** Give it the correct foods, and learn to recognise common traits and habits including how to groom, clean and exercise the animal.
- Help to care for a farm animal for at least two months.** Know the correct foods to give it and be able to recognise common illnesses. Learn what special care you need to give before and after the birth of farm animals.

Then choose two of these to do:

- Keep a record of bird, animal or insect life in your garden, local area or park.** Keep pictures, sketches, photographs or audio recordings. Do this for at least three months.
- Visit a zoo, wildlife park, animal sanctuary or rescue centre.** Find out about some of the animals you see. What are their feeding habits and natural habitats?
- Join an animal, bird or wildlife society.** Either take part in one of its activities or make progress in any award scheme it offers.
- Find out about dangers that threaten wildlife in their natural habitat.** Make a poster, collage or drawing or tell other Cub Scouts what you found out.
- Learn and understand what you need to do and be aware of when deciding to own a pet.**



Gardener

- Find out what seasons are best to grow a selection of six fruits and vegetables.** Find out what it is about those seasons that make them the right time to grow your fruit and vegetables.
- Learn what tools you need to garden (a minimum of three) and show that you know how to use them safely.**

- **Help to look after and grow at least one item in a garden or allotment for two months.** Alternatively, grow at least two different fruits, vegetables or herbs for two months indoors or in plant pots. You could grow: -herbs such as basil or mint -vegetables such as lettuce or runner beans -fruits such as tomatoes or strawberries
- **Design plant labels for the plants you are looking after or growing.**
- **Understand what mini beasts are and why they are good for our gardens and outdoor spaces.** Visit a bug hotel (or similar) and record what you find living there.



Naturalist

- **Learn how to identify six different living things from two of these categories** (That means you should have 12 examples in total): -trees -garden birds -water birds -minibeasts and insects -wild flowers -pond dwellers -fungi -butterflies and moths
- **Over three months, visit the same natural area at least four times.** Take a note of the changes in the plants and wildlife that you see. You might visit a garden, hedgerow, canal, river lake or park. Make sure that you have an adult's permission for the visits.
- **Learn the countryside code and how to follow it.**
- **Choose one of these activities to do:**
 - Create a piece of art using natural material. You could do a bark or leaf rubbing, dried flower picture or maybe a collage.
 - Use a dye that uses natural ingredients to colour a piece of material.
 - Make a feeding station for birds. Get permission to hang it in a good position.
 - Make a hedgehog, ladybird or bee house.
 - With an adult pick wild edible berries, leaves or fruit. Use them in a recipe.

GROWN UPS: Once again, please be aware that the purpose of this pack is to allow your child to enjoy scouting activities whilst at home. If your child is aiming to tick off some badge requirements at the same time, please record what they have done so their leaders can see the progress they have made. Some badge requirements may not be appropriate at this time, contact your child's leaders to discuss alternatives.