

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!

This pack is designed to take you a long period of time to complete, please don't worry if you don't get it finished in a day (or even a week)!

Doing these activities will help you to gain your Naturalist badge, and to start gaining your Environmental Conservation and Forester 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.

Trees, Glorious Trees!

The first step to becoming a Wildlife Warrior is about getting to know the wildlife that is around us! One great way to do this is to learn how to tell different trees apart!

Using this identification key (<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/content/dam/nhmwww/take-part/identify-nature/tree-identification-key.pdf>) learn how to identify 8 different trees that you may find near your house (these must be a mix of both deciduous and coniferous trees).



What is a deciduous tree?

What is a coniferous tree?

Once you think you can identify 8 different trees (without using the identification key!), think of a way to show to your leaders that you could do this. It may take a while for you to get confident with this and that's okay! One way to show your leaders could be to record a video of yourself naming the different trees and explaining how you can tell which is which.

Now you have learnt about the trees that live around you, it's time to learn a little about the other wildlife in your area. With your grown-up's permission, spend at least 7 hours (this can be broken up into as many sessions as you need) at one of these places:

- woodland or parkland
 - down land
 - moor land
- seashore or sand dune
 - hedgerow
 - roadside verge
- stream, river or canal
 - small pond
- wetland or marshland.

You may not need to leave your house to do this if you are unable to at this time.

Use the sheet below to record the wildlife and plants you see there, you can also take pictures, videos, sound recordings and draw maps or pictures. Use as many of the sheets as you need to complete the 7 hours, make sure to record the date, time and length of time you spend, as well as any changes you see if you go at different times or different days!

When you have finished your observations discuss with a grown-up what you have found, use any notes/pictures etc you took to show your findings.



Wildlife Warrior Field Notes



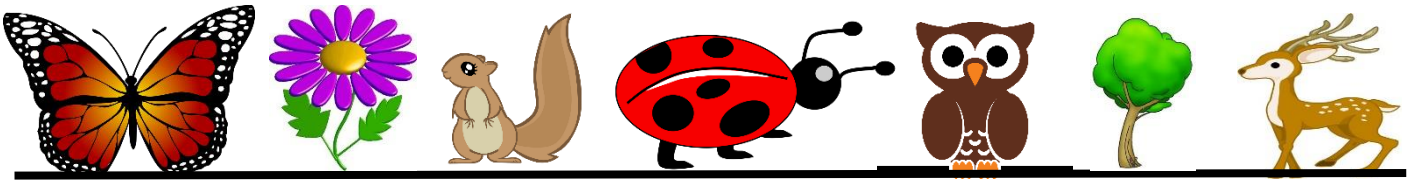
Location:

Date:

Time of Arrival:

Time Observing:

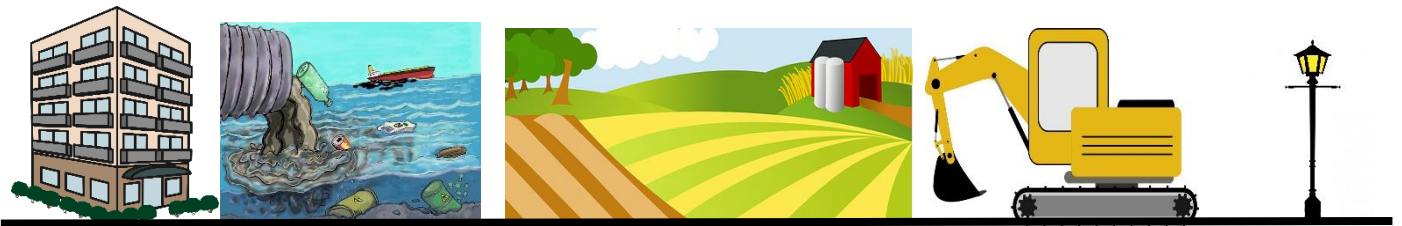
A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thick green border, intended for writing field notes.



Choose a particular animal or plant from your observations that you were particularly interested in.

Do some more research of your own to find out more about it!

Make a poster, PowerPoint presentation, video or use another format of your choice to discuss and make others aware of the species you chose to research. Make sure you include the sources that you used to find out the information (for example what webpage or book you used).



To become a Wildlife Warrior and start protecting the wildlife around us, we first need to understand the problems wildlife face.

Human activities and land management can cause big problems for wildlife.

Find out some more about one of these problems and create a mindmap, poster or leaflet discussing what you have found.



There are many ways we can be a Wildlife Warrior, such as recycling, saving water and electricity, walking to school or Scouts 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.

Bird Boxes (these are for those up for a challenge)

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-families/family-wild-challenge/activities/build-a-birdbox/>

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/how-to-make-your-own-bird-box>

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)

Bird Bath

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-families/family-wild-challenge/activities/build-a-bird-bath/> (this is a very easy project which doesn't involve much DIY and uses what you already have lying around)

Hedgehog House (once again for those up for a challenge)

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



Take a break from all the hard Wildlife Warrior work you have been doing!

Here are some animal and nature quizzes and games for you to enjoy:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/games/type/animals-and-nature#filter>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/quizzes/type/animals-and-nature#filter>



Okay! Now that well deserved break is over lets get back to being Wildlife Warriors!

We've looked at the wildlife living around us, and some of the problems affecting wildlife worldwide. But now it's time to think about some of the issues affecting wildlife in our local areas.

Find out about an environmental issue that is important to your local community, these could include issues such as:

- recycling and conservation
- energy efficiency in the home or your meeting place
- the building of new homes and local land use
- water, light, thermal, air or beach pollution
- coastal erosion
- the impact of tourism on the local environment.

Record what you find out in a way that suits you.

Here are some links that may provide you with some starting points:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhssgk7/resources/1>

<https://www.eia.gov/kids/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z8tyr82>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zt6sfg8/revision/1>



You could take your Wildlife Warrior role one step further and get involved with or come up with your own project to help improve local conservation!

This project should take a significant amount of time and because of this and us having to stay apart from other people, this may be something you want to do later on in the year.

What you could do now however is plan your project and work out what (and maybe who) you will need to help you, and how long the project will take. There is a planning sheet below to help you do this.

If you are in virtual contact with any of your scout friends, you may want to work together and do this as a group.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU DISCUSS ANY PLANS WITH YOUR LEADERS BEFORE YOU START ANYTHING!!

Your project could be related to

- recycling
- reducing energy usage or renewable energy
- protecting important habitats or wildlife
- pollution
- erosion
- flooding
- Or maybe it could be related to the research you did earlier

Here are some ideas of some projects that you may be interested in doing (feel free to come up with your own, just make sure you speak to your leader first!):

Beach Clean: <https://www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch/greatbritishbeachclean>

Eco Bricks <https://www.ecobricks.org/>

Track Food Waste <https://www.scouts.org.uk/activities/track-your-food-footprint/>

Willow Wall <https://www.scouts.org.uk/activities/willow-wall/>

Weave <https://www.scouts.org.uk/activities/weave-goodbye-to-waste/>



Environmental Project planning sheet



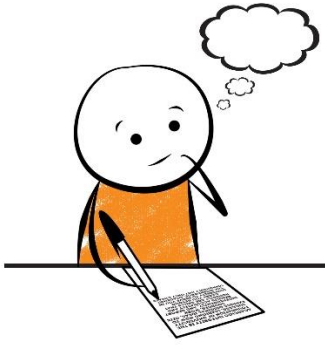
What are you planning to do?

Will you need help to do this? From who? How many people?

What will you need to be able to do this (tools, information, specific permissions etc?)

How long will this take?

What is your plan of action (use drawings and an extra sheet if needed)?



If you are really passionate about the things you have learnt throughout this pack, especially the environmental issues facing our wildlife, you could write a letter to an important person, maybe an MP or somebody else important in your community.

This should tell them about an issue you are passionate about (maybe the one you researched earlier) and why they should do something to help solve the problem!
You could even go one step further and explain how they could help!

If you would like to do this, you will find a letter template below.



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://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/games/type/animals-and-nature#filter>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/quizzes/type/animals-and-nature#filter>

<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/>

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!



Forester

- Identify at least eight common types of tree that grow in your area, including both deciduous and coniferous.
- Find out how to identify trees using identification keys.
- Prepare the soil and successfully transplant a young tree.

- Find out how both natural woodland and commercial forests are managed.** Be aware of the damage these areas may be exposed to from wind, frost, fire and animals.
- Show how to select, use and care for forestry equipment, and know the safety issues involved.**
- Show how to fell and trim out a tree or lay a hedge.**



Naturalist

- With appropriate permission, spend at least one day at one of these locations and investigate the wildlife and plants found there:**
 - woodland or parkland
 - down land
 - moor land
 - seashore or sand dune
 - hedgerow
 - roadside verge
 - stream, river or canal
 - small pond
 - wetland or marshland
- Tell a knowledgeable adult what you discovered.** Show them your field notes, sketches, photographs or maps.
- Find out more about a plant, animal or particular wildlife from your chosen location.**
- Discuss what you found out, giving sources for information from places like museums, field guides or the internet.**
- Discuss how human activities or land management can affect wildlife.**



Environmental
Conservation

Find out about an environmental issue that is important to your local community.

It might be linked to:

- recycling and conservation
- energy efficiency in the home or your meeting place
- the building of new homes and local land use
- water, light, thermal, air or beach pollution
- coastal erosion
- the impact of tourism on the local environment.

Take part in an activity or project that improves local conservation.

It could take place during a weekend conservation camp or you could spread it over at least five weekly sessions.

You could look at:

- recycling
- reducing energy usage or renewable energy
- protecting important habitats or wildlife
- pollution
- erosion
- flooding

Get involved in a campaign to make others aware of an environmental issue. You could write to your MP and other local agencies or speak to a community group.

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.