

Merton Bank Primary School – Growth and Wellbeing Week 2021

Day 2 Nature Day – Session 2

| Session | Context | Tasks to complete | You will need: |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Session 2 Get involved in nature | <p>What are the signs of winter? What can you see? What can you hear? What can you feel?</p> <p>Take a long winter walk and see how many signs of winter you can spot. You can use the scavenger hunt list or make up your own.</p> <p>Can you see any signs that spring is coming?</p> <p>While you are out and about, collect the materials you will need for your own Outdoor nature art.</p> <p>You can create your own piece of natural art while you're out on your walk. Take a sequence of photos and a final photo. Or You can bring the materials home to create the artwork in your own garden.</p> | <p>Read through the list of items on the scavenger hunt so you know what to look for.</p> <p>Choose a route for your winter scavenger hunt adventure.</p> <p>Complete your scavenger hunt.</p> <p>Collect the items you will need for your nature artwork.</p> <p>Create your own piece of natural art.</p> | <p>Warm outdoor clothing and footwear.</p> <p>Snacks / drink</p> <p>Scavenger hunt list Pencil</p> <p>Bag / box to collect items for your nature art project.</p> |

A Winter scavenger hunt list

Trees may be bare and animals tucked up in hibernation, but there's still plenty to spot on a long winter walk.

- glossy evergreen leaves
- a lacy leaf skeleton
- bumpy bark
- fallen tree cones
- a y-shaped stick
- animal tracks on the ground

Session 2 examples:

Woodland Trust
Nature
detectives

Explore the woods this winter
Keep your eyes peeled when you're out and about

Catkins
Keep your eyes peeled for hazel catkins in February

Mistletoe
Balls of mistletoe growing in tree tops

Drumming
Listen carefully for woodpeckers hammering on tree trunks

Fungi
Bracket fungi or jelly fungi on dead branches

Moss
Cushion moss in beech woods, and under oaks and conifers

Buds
Long ones, clusters, opposite pairs and big sticky ones

Nuts
Can you see any squirrels or jays looking for their stores?

Drey
An untidy, twiggy, squirrel nest about the size of a football

Nest
Can you spot an old bird's nest in the bare tree branches?

Poo
Shiny, oval-shaped droppings from roe deer

Wonderful winter hunt



Winter tree ID

This simple guide will help you ID trees in winter.



Ash

Look for velvety black buds on grey twigs.



Beech

Look for long, pointy, brown buds.



Elder

Look for red buds sitting opposite each other.



Oak

Look for groups of buds at the end of the twig.



Horse chestnut

Look for fat, sticky, brown buds.



Field maple

Look for small, grey leaf buds.



Hazel

Look for yellowy-green catkins hanging down.

Winter tree ID



Be a real Nature Detective!
How many of these wintry treasures can you collect?



Birch catkins



A lichen-covered twig



Spiky, shiny holly leaves



Long, tickly pine needles



A cone smaller than your thumb



Winter scavenger hunt

Get collecting!



Tough, smooth evergreen leaves



Lacy leaf skeletons



Smooth, striped cherry tree bark



A ripe cone



A green cone waiting to ripen



Rough, cracked oak bark



Bumpy, jigsaw-patterned Scots pine bark

