

Cubs - Naturalist Activity Badge



1. Around the site we have a number of different trees using this great identification wheel from the Woodland Trust, ask your Cubs to identify 6 different trees by their leaves. The site has Oak, Ash, Holly, Ivy, Crab apples and many other. Why not use the [Leaf iDial](#) or search for the Woodland trust tree identification app to help identify the leaves you don't know.

Using a box or tray scoop up some of the leaves, sticks and a bit of soil from the forest floor (It's best to do this away from the path) get your Cubs to slowly take out the leaves and sticks to see what minibeast they can find. Ask them to identify as many as possible. The [creepy crawly iDial](#) can help with this.

2. Close to your meeting place find natural area that your Cubs can visit regularly, do this at least 4 times over 4 months and see the changes in the plants and wildlife.

3. As with any areas in the country it is important to respect the land and those that live there. The Countryside Code gives advice on how you can enjoy your visit to the countryside and also act responsibly to protect the countryside. The code explains that is important to plan ahead, stay safe, control your dog near livestock and prevent fires.

Respect other people:

- **consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors**
- **leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available.** - This means leave an open gate open and a closed gate closed.

Protect the natural environment:

- **leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home** - litter can be dangerous for wildlife and livestock.
- **keep dogs under effective control**

Enjoy the outdoors:

- **plan ahead and be prepared** - always tell someone where you're going and how long you expect to be. Be aware of the weather before, during and over the course of your journey. Bring the correct clothing and pack some snacks.
- **follow advice and local signs**

4. There are many activities to cover the 4th point of this badge. Previously on site we have had groups complete several of these, here are a few of their ideas:

- Leaf Hammering
- Bark rubbing
- Using Beetroot to tie dye
- Cooking Nettle soup