THE wildlife TRUSTS

2021 Advent Calendar
Holiday activity pack

Spot the elves

Nine elves are hiding in the pictures – can you spot all of them?

Robin

Deer

Blackbird

Rabbit

Fox

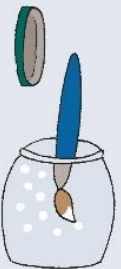Blue tit

Make a glitter-free snow globe

You will need

- A glass jar with a lid
- Unused small Christmas decorations
- Craft glue
- White tissue paper, cotton wool or moss
- White paint and long brush
- Decorations from nature
  - Twigs
  - Holly leaves
  - Pine cones
  - Acorns

Traditionally, glitter is made up of shiny microplastics that are really damaging to the environment and animals, especially in our seas. Try this glitter-free snow globe for an eco-friendly alternative!
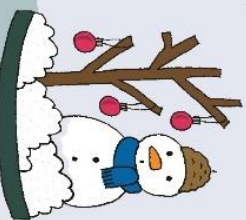
1. Paint tiny white dots on the inside of your jar to imitate snow, then put aside to dry.

2. On the inside of your jar lid, glue down scrunched-up tissue paper or cotton wool to look like snow, or try dried moss for a natural look.

3. Glue your decorations on top of the 'snow' or moss. This is where you can get creative!

4. Screw your lid back onto the jar, and turn upside down to create a snow globe decoration!

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Word search

Can you find all the words in the grid?

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

SNOW
FOX
HERON
BERRIES

ROBIN
SQUIRREL
HOLLY
OWL

TREE
NATURE
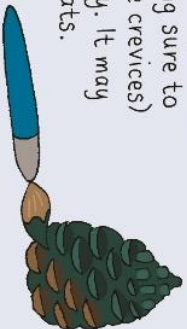STARLING
WINTER

Make a pine cone Christmas tree

You will need

- A pine cone (you'll find them in woodlands, parks and gardens under conifer trees)
- Bottle cork
  Tapered ones work best
- Paints and small brushes
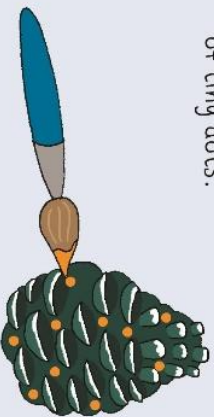- Yellow card
- Scissors
- Craft glue

1. Release any insects that may be hiding in your pine cone and give it a brush with a dry paintbrush to remove any dirt.

2. Paint the whole pine cone green (making sure to get in all the crevices) and let it dry. It may need two coats.

3. Time for snow! Using white, paint the tips of the pine cone and wait to dry. Use coloured paints to create 'baubles' out of tiny dots.
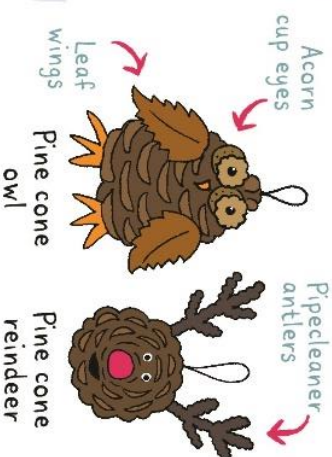
4. Cut out a star-shaped piece of yellow card, and glue to the top of the tree.

5. Glue your cork to the bottom of the tree to create the pot!

Why not make some other pine cone creations...

Acorn cup eyes

Leaf wings

Pine cone owl

Pipecleaner antlers

Pine cone reindeer

Illustration: Corinne Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2020

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You can also find an instruction video here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPJaJFrToLY

Drawing challenge

Draw what winter looks like in your local reserve or park,
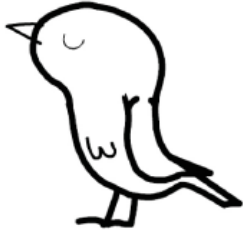and/or you can colour in some of the animals you might see on the next page.

Squirrel

Robin

Kestrel

Goldfinch

Blackbird

Grey Partridge
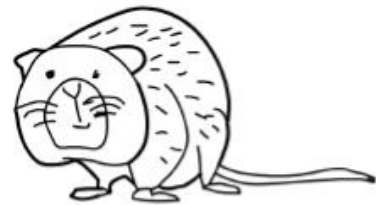
Lapwing

Blue Tit
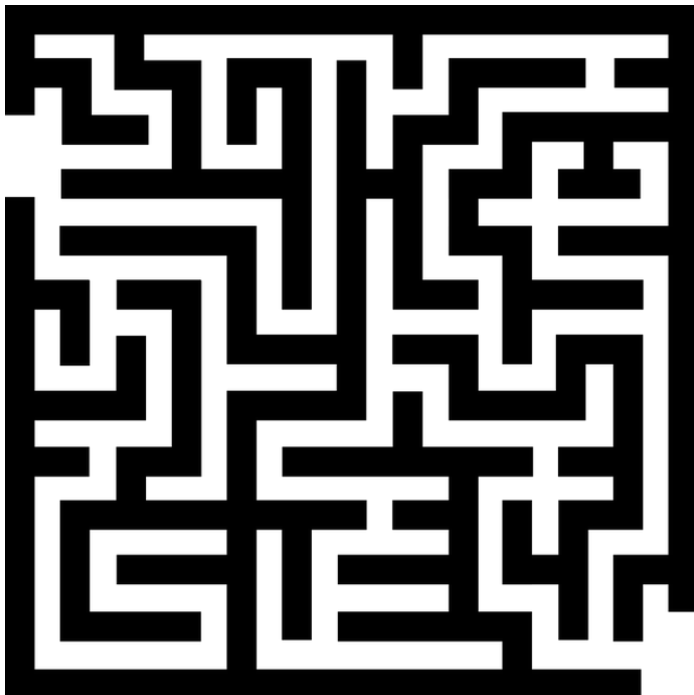
Great Tit

Brown Hare

Tree Sparrow

Water Vole

Maze

Can you help the bird find the bird box?

Scavenger hunt

Visit your local nature reserve or favourite nature spot to complete your scavenger hunt. You will need to take some coloured pens, pencils or crayons and this sheet with you.

How many different flowers can you find? Colour in a flower each time.

Colour in the circle for each of the following you find on your walk.

◯ Blue   ◯ Yellow   ◯ Red   ◯ Black

◯ Pink   ◯ Orange   ◯ Green   ◯ White

◯ Grey   ◯ Purple   ◯ Brown

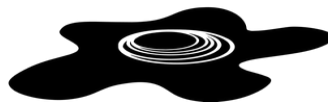Can you tick off all the following?

☐ Fallen leaves

☐ Signs of spring

☐ A diving duck
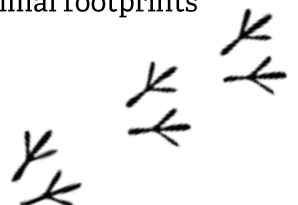
☐ A puddle

☐ A squirrel

☐ Winter berries

☐ A robin

☐ Animal footprints

☐ Lichen

Birds need food over winter and you can give them a helping hand with this natural bird feeder.

Make a Christmas wreath for Birds

www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

You will need:

- Pines cones
- Long twigs
- Garden wire
- Soft lard
- Mixing bowl
- Holly and other leaves
- Bird seed, breadcrumbs and grated cheese
- Dried fruits or unsalted nuts

1. Twist together bundles of long twigs and fasten with wire into a ring.

2. Squish lard into a soft paste in a bowl. Mix in bird seed, breadcrumbs or grated cheese.

3. Smear over pine cones and decorate with dried fruits and nuts.

4. Attach the cones to the ring with twisted wire.

5. Decorate with festive greenery and hang up your wreath.

Make sure there's a clean supply of water nearby

Somewhere to hang your wreath

wildlife watch

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Quiz

Can you answer all these questions?
Circle the correct answers.
Hint: the answers are all in our advent calendar!
https://www.wildlifebcn.org/advent-calendar

1. What colour is a blue tit?
a. White, blue and yellow   b. Orange and brown   c. White, brown, yellow and red

2. What type of flower did we see good numbers of this year on our reserves?
a. Dog roses   b. Cowslips   c. Bluebells   d. Orchids

3. Why is it a good idea to feed birds during winter?
a. It makes their feathers brighter   b. There is less food around in winter
c. They sing louder when they've had bird seed

4. What can you do to recycle the Christmas cards you receive this year?
a. Leave them up all year   b. Put them in the bin   c. Make gift tags for next year

5. Which animal hibernates throughout winter?
a. Dormouse   b. Duck   c. Robin   d. Pheasant   e. Fish

6. A slow worm* looks like a(n):
a. Eel   b. Fish   c. Snake   d. Shrimp   e. Newt

**7. This is the footprint
of which animal?**
a. Fox   b. Red deer
c. Duck   d. Muntjac deer
e. Badger

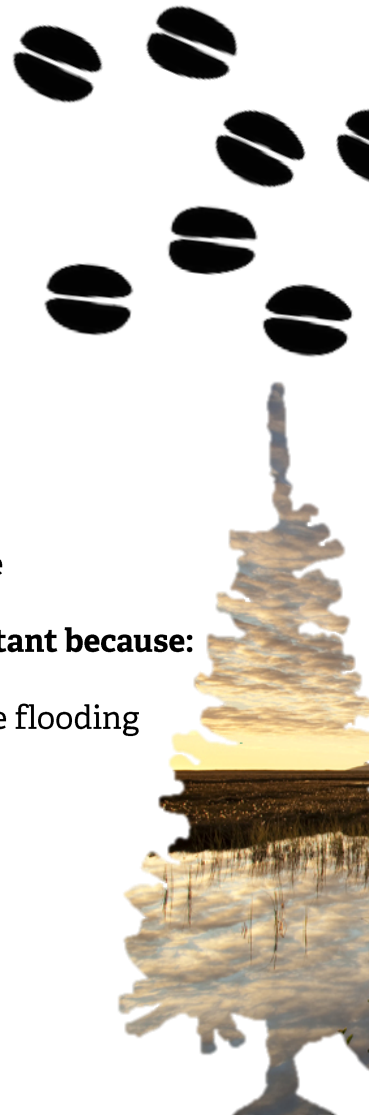**8. Which beetle has a tummy which lights up at night?**
a. Ladybird   b. Glow-worm   c. Soldier beetle   d. Stag beetle

9. Wetlands like our Great Fen nature reserves are really important because:
a. Wetland peat stores carbon which is damaging our planet
b. They are helping us fight climate change   c. They help reduce flooding
d. All of the above

10. Our winter wild challenge is called:
a. Big Wild Walk   b. 30 Days Wild
c. 30 Days Wild

* A slow worm is in fact a legless lizard in the reptile family!
Answers: 1.a, 2.d, 3.b, 4.c, 5.a, 6.c, 7.b, 8.b, 9.d, 10.c

Find your next adventure!

- We hold **events for all ages**, from babies to teenagers, throughout the year. Learn more about wildlife and take part in some fun activities: **wildlifebcn.org/events**

- Keep your interest in nature alive! **Join your Wildlife Trust** for wonderful benefits as well the latest news and updates about wildlife in your area. New members also receive a lovely goodie bag. Family and child memberships available: **wildlifebcn.org/become-member**

- If you enjoyed this pack, please consider donating to our Wildlife Trust to **support your local wildlife**: **wildlifebcn.org/donate**

We hope to see you soon!