



# SPOTTER SHEETS

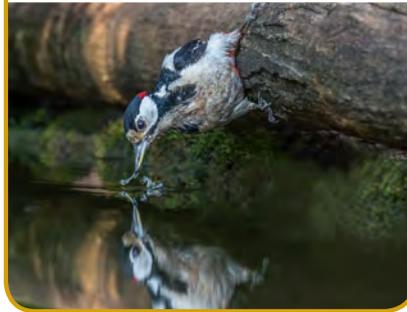
Visual checklists that can be used as stand-alone resources or as part of the ready-made garden activities provided in this kit.

These birds have made Walmer their home so please **be kind** to them!

FEEDING



DRINKING



PERCHING



HOPPING



ENGLISH HERITAGE  
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# BIRD BEHAVIOUR

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI

BATHING



NESTING



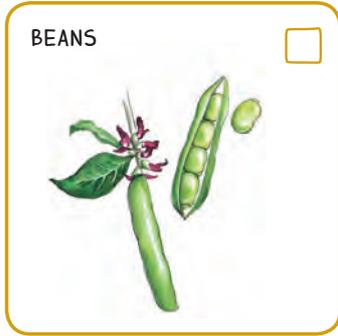
SINGING



## DID YOU KNOW?

Birds have hollow bones that help them fly.

You can **look** but don't touch! This keeps you safe and protects the kitchen garden.

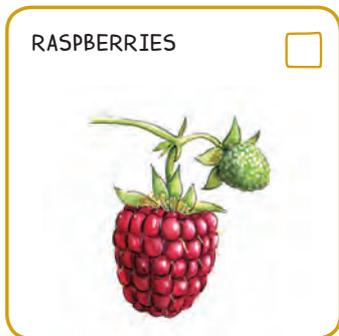
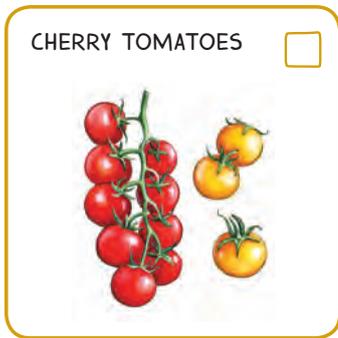


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**KSI-2**

**FRUIT AND  
VEGETABLES**

SPOTTER SHEET



### DID YOU KNOW?

Different fruits and vegetables grow at different times of year. Find the panel in the kitchen garden to see what is being grown this season.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick!  
This keeps you safe and protects the woodland.

BUTTERFLY



There are plants in the woods that different caterpillars like to eat. These caterpillars eventually turn into butterflies.

SYCAMORE TREE



These trees can grow to 35 metres – that's seven double-decker buses stacked on top of each other!

WOODLOUSE



These minibeasts love damp, dark places such as piles of dead leaves and rotten logs.

TREE STUMP



The gardeners often leave these in the ground after a tree is cut down. They make good homes for grubs and help fungi to grow. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

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## WONDERS IN THE WOODS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

UNDERGROWTH



A healthy woodland has layers. Smaller shrubs under the trees give birds and insects a place to hide.

BEEBLE



These invertebrates have armour-like exoskeletons. Different beetles eat different things but they all love the woods.

BIRD BOXES



We attach these small boxes to trees in the woods to encourage birds to nest here.

### DID YOU KNOW?

A bit of untidiness is good for the woods. We don't clear up the leaf litter because millions of tiny creatures love it – and these are all food for other wildlife like birds and hedgehogs.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick!  
This keeps you safe and protects the Glen.

### FERNS



These evergreen plants love the shade under the tall trees in the Glen. They start life curled up and slowly uncurl. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

### CHALK PIT



The Glen used to be a quarry for digging chalk. Certain trees and plants grow really well in chalky soil. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

### IVY



This climbing evergreen plant can be damaging to trees but it provides food and shelter for wildlife.

### ELM TREE



In spring, these trees have dark pink flowers that hang in tassels. The top surface of the oval-shaped leaves feels rough to touch.

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## GEMS IN THE GLEN

SPOTTER SHEET

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### ROTTING LOGS



These provide safe hiding places for hedgehogs and insects and create damp homes for toads and slugs. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

### GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER



These birds cling to tree trunks and can be hard to spot! If you don't see a woodpecker, look for the holes they make in the trees.

### YEW TREE



These evergreens keep their needle-like leaves all year round and have red fruit in winter. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The environment here is different from the rest of the gardens. It is more shady and sheltered from the wind.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick!  
This keeps you safe and protects the meadow.

YELLOW RATTLE



This plant invades grass roots and steals their nutrients. It stops the grass from taking over, so that other plants can grow.

BUMBLEBEE



Between spring and late summer these buzz from flower to flower, picking up and spreading pollen.

GRASS



Grass can be fuzzy and hairy or glossy and green. Some grass leaves are wide and floppy, others are narrow and stiff.

RED HORSE CHESTNUT



In spring, these trees have pinkish-red flowers that look like pretty candles and in autumn they drop conkers.



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## MARVELS IN THE MEADOW

SPOTTER SHEET

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ORCHID



These summer flowers are bright pink and look like pretty pyramids on top of long green stems.

BUTTERFLY



These start life as a caterpillar. Most caterpillars will only eat certain plants, so more plant species means more types of butterflies.

GRASSHOPPER



These noisy insects make a chirping sound by rubbing their back legs against their wings.

### DID YOU KNOW?

This is a very special chalk meadow. Certain plants love chalky soil and certain insects love these plants! In summer the grasslands are alive with insects.

These creatures have made Walmer their home so please **be kind** to them!

GARDEN SNAIL



A snail is a gastropod, meaning it has a soft body with a flat base which it uses to move around.

EARTHWORM



Worms will eat just about anything as long as it's dead. They have no eyes and they breathe through their skin.

SPIDER



Spiders are arachnids, meaning they have eight legs and a body made of two parts.

APHID



These tiny insects have needle-like mouths for piercing and sucking sap from plants.

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## CRAWLING MINIBEASTS

SPOTTER SHEET

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CATERPILLAR



Caterpillars create cocoons around themselves and eventually come out as butterflies or moths. This is called metamorphosis.

WOODLOUSE



A woodlouse is a crustacean, meaning it has a tough outer shell and is related to lobsters and crabs.

CENTIPEDE



Most centipedes don't actually have 100 legs. They have two legs per body segment and they all grow to different lengths.

### DID YOU KNOW?

These creatures are all invertebrates, meaning they don't have backbones.

These creatures have made Walmer their home so please **be kind** to them!

DRAGONFLY



These have bigger eyes, different wing shapes and shorter, thicker bodies than damselflies.

MOTH



These are the less-colourful cousins of butterflies and are most active at night.

DAMSELFLY



These fold their wings up when resting whereas dragonflies hold them out like an aeroplane.

HOVERFLY



Although they look like wasps, these insects are harmless flies and can't sting you.

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## FLYING MINIBEASTS

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LADYBIRD



These come in many colours and patterns but the most well-known is the seven-spot ladybird.

BUMBLEBEE



In their quest for pollen, these fuzzy bees scent-mark each flower they visit so they don't waste time going back to it again.

HONEY BEE



These honey-making bees will die if they use their sting, but bumblebees will not.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Most flying minibeasts are great pollinators, meaning they visit flowers all around the garden, picking up and spreading pollen, causing more flowers to grow.

These butterflies have made Walmer their home so please **be kind** to them!

BRIMSTONE



These hibernate over winter and fly from the first sunny day in spring. The caterpillars eat buckthorn which likes the chalky soil at Walmer.

CABBAGE WHITE



These come out two to three times a year and fly all day, but not during dawn or in the evening.

HOLLY BLUE



These emerge twice a year. The spring caterpillars eat holly and the autumn caterpillars eat ivy, both of which grow at Walmer.

PEACOCK



These use the eye spots on their wings to scare off predators that want to eat them.

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# BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

KS3

TORTOISESHELL



These can be seen feeding on flowers all year round during warm spells. The caterpillars eat stinging nettles.

SPECKLED WOOD



Unlike most butterflies, these don't need nectar from flowers. They suck up honeydew – the sugary waste made by aphids.

RED ADMIRAL



These emerge in spring and fly through the summer, but rarely survive the winter.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The mixture of trees and flowers here is great for butterflies. They like sweet nectar from flowers, but their caterpillars also need other types of plants for food.

These birds have made Walmer their home so please **be kind** to them!

CHAFFINCH



Most finches are seed-eaters, but in spring chaffinches also eat insects, which they can even catch while flying.

GREEN WOODPECKER



These have one of the longest tongues of any bird in Europe, which they use to catch tasty ants.

ROBIN



These sing all year round to keep other robins off their patch. If another robin dares to come to close, they will fight.

BLACKBIRD



Lots of our trees and shrubs have berries on them in autumn, which blackbirds love to eat, along with worms and insects.

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## BRILLIANT BIRDS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

KS3

WREN



These small birds don't usually like company, but on cold nights, they sleep huddled in gangs.

GOLDFINCH



These use their beaks like tweezers to get seeds out of plants. A group of goldfinches is called a 'charm'... how charming!

TREECREEPER



We have lots of old trees with gnarly bark – perfect hunting places for insect-loving tree creepers.

GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER



In spring, these use trees to make a fast drumming noise with their beaks. They aren't drilling holes; they are sending signals to other birds.

### DID YOU KNOW?

You can learn more about these by looking at the wooden birds carved into tree stumps along the woodland path.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick! This keeps you safe and protects the trees.

ENGLISH OAK



These native trees have grown in England for thousands of years. The tree has to be at least 40 years old to produce acorns.

HOLLY



These are a symbol of Christmas because they have glossy leaves all year round and red berries in winter. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

MULBERRY



These trees produce juicy fruits that start out white in summer and turn purple by autumn, when they are ripe. Don't get them confused with blackberries!

COMMON BEECH



These deciduous trees usually grow on chalk, so they love the Glen. In autumn, they hang on to their leaves for a while after they turn brown.



## TERRIFIC TREES

SPOTTER SHEET

KS1-2

KS3

YEW



These evergreens can be found in the woodland and Glen. Photo by Imogen Robinson.

SWEET CHESTNUT



These deciduous trees can live for up to 700 years. They have yellow flowers in spring, which are pollinated by insects and develop into shiny brown fruits, wrapped in a spiky case.

COMMON LIME



These deciduous trees flower in July, providing nectar for honey bees. Their leaves turn yellow and drop in autumn.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Some of these trees are deciduous, meaning they drop their leaves in autumn and regrow them in spring. Others are evergreens; they keep their leaves all year round.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick! This keeps you safe and protects the flowers.

BLUEBELL



About half of the entire world's bluebells grow in the UK! Badgers like to dig up and eat bluebell bulbs.

DAFFODIL



These grow all around Walmer gardens, including in the Paddock and the moat.

SNOWDROP



January to March is snowdrop season. Look for them in the woodland and Paddock.

PRIMROSE



This is one of the first plants to bloom in spring. Its name comes from the word 'primus' which means 'first' or 'early'.

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## SPRING FLOWERS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

KS3

COWSLIP



The name 'cowslip' actually means 'cowslop' (cowpat), because it grows best in fields and meadows near the cows!

CYCLAMEN



These can be found in woody areas. Some of them have heart-shaped leaves.

BLOSSOM



Look for cherry blossom on the trees in the Paddock and apple blossom on the trees in the orchard.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Bulbs live happily under the ground for most of the year, until the flowers pop up in spring. The plant eventually dies back and it happens all over again the next year!

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick! This keeps you safe and protects the flowers.

FOXGLOVE



Look for these tall purple spikes, in the woodland undergrowth.

ORCHID



Look for these pink pyramids in the Paddock.

ROSE



Look for these sweet-smelling flowers putting on a colourful summer show in the kitchen garden.

GOLDENROD



Look for these bright yellow plants in the flower beds of the Broadwalk.



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## SUMMER FLOWERS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

KS3

BLUE HEDGEHOG



Look for these spiky blue globes in the flower beds of the Broadwalk. Its name comes from the ancient Greek word for hedgehog (echinops).

HYDRANGEA



Look in the moat for these woody shrubs with big flowers.

BEAR'S BREECHES



Look for these tall, upright plants in the flower beds of the Broadwalk.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Even the castle is taken over by colourful flowers in summer when large daisies begin to peek out from nooks and crannies in the walls.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick! This keeps you safe and protects the gardens.

SQUASH



By autumn, these vegetables are swollen from summer growth and are ready for harvest.

DAHLIA



These colourful globes flower in the autumn months. Photo by Isabel Baldwin from Dover Grammar School for Girls.

JAPANESE ANEMONE



These flower in summer and provide colour in the Queen Mother's Garden until the end of autumn.

SALVIA



These tall pink spikes can be seen in the flower beds of the Broadwalk in autumn.

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## AUTUMN HIGHLIGHTS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

KS3

VIRGINIA CREEPER



The leaves of these wall-hugging plants change colour in autumn and turn the walls of the castle flame red.

APPLES



In the orchards, apples and pears become ripe and ready for picking.

CONKERS



On the floor of the woods, you'll see that horse chestnut trees are dropping their shiny brown seeds in spiky cases.

### DID YOU KNOW?

In autumn, the kitchen garden is bursting with fruit and vegetables. From September, the gardens team make a special display from all the things they've harvested.