

Wildlife Safari – Sunday 2nd August 2020 11.00am

Churchyards are a great place to study different habitats and offer refuge for our native wildlife.

On Sunday you're invited to be a Grassland Explorer in family groups. If you can't take part on Sunday feel free to have a go some other time.

Resources:

You will need to bring with you a ball of string, a magnifying glass, 4 story sticks (small twigs), drawing materials or a camera/ mobile phone camera and a torch.

Activity:

The aim is to look more carefully at the grasses in the churchyard.

Grass is common in this church yard and at first glance the grass may appear to be the same. But if you look very closely you will see lots of differences and may find a lot of other things growing including flowers, moss, clover and insects.

In family groups choose a small area of grass to explore in detail. The grass could be close to a wall, in a shady corner, in the sun, or of different lengths.

The area can be anywhere in this mown part of the churchyard as long as you are able to maintain social distancing from other groups and individuals. Please also remain close enough so that we can find you for the end of the activity. You will have 15 minutes for this activity.

Task:

1. Use your magnifying glass and torch and get down on your hands and knees to explore. Look for something that stands out for you – something different or unusual.
2. Take a photograph or a make a quick sketch of it and put one of your 'story sticks' into the ground to mark the spot.
3. Repeat three more times.
4. When all four sticks are in the ground use the string to join them together. Follow the string from stick to stick and be ready to tell the rest of the congregation about the unusual things you have found.

To think about – Why did you choose it? What do you like about it? Why is it so special?

Material from Caring for God's Acre: <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/16-Wildlife-Safari-Habitat-Hunter.pdf>