

Churchyard nature hunt



10 Are there signs of bats? _____

Our churchyards are rich with biodiversity, what can you find?
Keep score and fill in the table on the reverse.

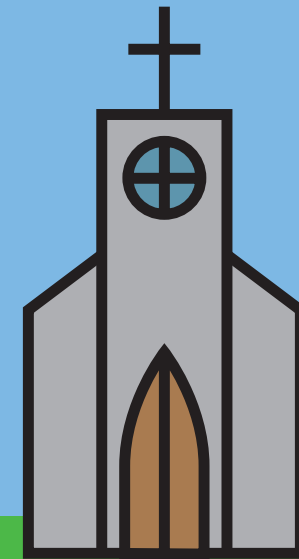
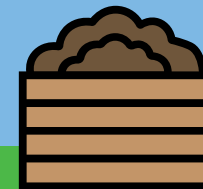


5 How many trees are there? _____

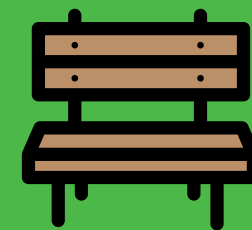
1 Listen, how many birds can you see & hear? _____



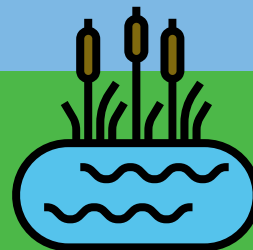
6 Can you find a compost bin/heap? _____



3 Is there a place to sit? _____

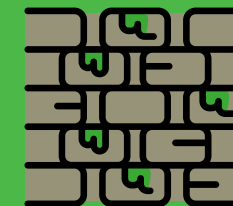


8 Can you see a birdfeeder or birdbox? _____



7 Is there a pond? _____

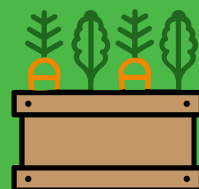
4 How many invertebrates can you see? _____



11 Are there lichen, mosses or ferns growing on a wall? _____



2 How many types of plant can you see? _____



9 Is there a vegetable patch? _____

Not sure what bird you can hear or what tree you are looking at? Try these species identification guides. rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides and woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife

For information about churchyard plants, bats, swifts and much more, visit oxford.anglican.org/environmental-action and plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wild-plants-nature

Learn about churchyard management for wildlife and heritage at caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources and ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/resources/land

Church name & location _____

Go out into the churchyard/garden and keep score of what you find.

Please take a photo of your completed survey and email it to environment@oxford.anglican.org.

	Points	Score	Max score
Can you see birds or hear birds singing? How many different species can you hear?	1-2 = 1 point 3-5 = 2 points + 5 = 5 points		5
Are there areas of longer grass with wildflowers?	5 points		5
Measure out (or estimate) one square metre of grassland/lawn, one in long grass and one in short grass areas. How many different types of plant (species) do you see?	5-10 = 1 point 11-15 = 3 points +15 = 5 points		10
Look closely in each square metre, how many different types of invertebrates can you see (beetle, ant, spider, etc.)?	3-4 = 1 point 5-7 = 3 points +8 = 5 points		10
How many trees can you see? Are any old enough to have holes in the trunk for wildlife to use?	1-2 = 1 point 3-5 = 2 points +5 = 5 points 2 extra points for old trees		7
Can you find a compost heap or bin? If not, is there a space for one?	5 points for composting 2 points for a possible location		5
Are there any log or leaf piles wildlife might hide in? Don't disturb them!	5 points		5
Are there any bird nesting boxes, bat boxes, dormouse boxes, bug hotels or hedgehog homes?	5 points		5
Are there any bird feeders?	5 points		5

	Points	Score	Max score
Is there a pond or wetland area?	5 points		5
Are there old gravestones with different mosses & lichens on them?	5 points		5
Is there a stone wall or a fence?	2 points for stone wall		8
Are there ferns, mosses, or lichens growing on it?	4 points for ferns/ mosses/ lichens.		
Does the fence or wall have gaps under it that a hedgehog could use?	2 points for a hedgehog gap		
Is there a visitors notice explaining about wildlife or why some areas are mown less often?	5 points		5
Do swifts nest in the church building? Ask a churchwarden if they know.	5 points		5
Do bats use the church building? There might be droppings on windowsills or the ground. Ask a churchwarden if they know.	5 points		5
Is there a seat for visitors to sit on?	5 points		5
Is there a vegetable plot or any fruit trees?	5 points		5
	TOTAL		Max: 100