

Round up of some of the free online resources and activities



Activities for children

The Wildlife Trust's Wildlife Watch section has activities (including indoors) and resources for children. www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/ There is now also a new video for kids and families at 10am every Wednesday! www.youtube.com/user/WildlifeWatchUK

Woodland Trust has loads of activities, under different categories – including quizzes and fact sheets. www.treetoolsforschools.org.uk/categorymenu/?cat=activities

National Trust things to do in your garden, highlighting the indoor/garden activities from their larger set of '50 things to do before you're 11 ¾': www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lists/50-things-activities-to-do-in-your-back-garden

Unique Voice, Bristol, Activity pack – includes 30 activities that can be done at home using as few resources as possible, but lots of imagination! uniquevoice.org/resources/stay-at-home-activity-pack/

Scouts have put together lots of activities that can be done indoors, including for older children – up to 18. www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors/

Educational/home schooling resources

Resources from the Canal and Rivers Trust - canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers

Trees for Cities Edible Playgrounds, particularly for anyone with a vegetable garden/allotment www.treesforcities.org/our-work/schools-programme/edible-playgrounds/educational-resources

Natural History Consortium's City Nature Challenge school resources include guides for using iNaturalist app and tips for observing wildlife. www.bnhc.org.uk/festival-of-nature/schools/

Field Studies Council Resources www.field-studies-council.org/resources-and-ideas/

Bumblebee Conservation Trust teaching resources - www.bumblebeeconservation.org/learning-zone/



Local wildlife on Social Media

The Hawk & Owl Trust to have a look at the Bath peregrine falcons nesting www.facebook.com/HawkandOwlTrust/

Avon Wildlife Trust's wardens are doing Instagram stories from around their reserves – Instagram/[@avonwt](https://www.instagram.com/avonwt)

Bath City Farm is regularly posting videos of the animals on the Farm, via Facebook and Instagram. www.facebook.com/BathCityFarm/ @bathcityfarm

Follow Marian Hill for her beautifully illustrated beetle of the day twitter.com/hill_marian

Activities for everyone

Some good links to heritage resources from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, including museums that are showing some of their collections on line:

www.heritagefund.org.uk/stories/how-enjoy-heritage-home

RSPB – activities ideas of things to do at home, a daily wild challenge and details of the #BreakfastBirdwatch www.rspb.org.uk/

The Wildlife Trusts and RHS have produced a guide to gardening for butterflies, free to download from www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/

Free short courses in nature/environmental subjects and more from the Open University: www.open.edu/openlearn/nature-environment/free-courses



Citizen Science

If you spot any wildlife local to your house, or when out for exercise, BRLSI (<https://www.brlsi.org/node/add/sighting>) and BRERC (recording.brerc.org.uk/node/62) always want to know. This will help us monitor numbers over the years and where they're found. Local experts check the records as well, so don't worry if you're not completely confident in what you've seen. You might also like to use the IRecord and INaturalist apps for help with identification and to record what you've seen.

You can take part in the national survey counting pollinators (FIT surveys – Flower-Insect Timed surveys) which can be done in a garden. You just need 10 mins to watch insects. Training resources and information and where to send your results are here www.ceh.ac.uk/our-science/projects/pollinator-monitoring



If you've seen bee flies – take part in the 2020 Beefly watch - www.dipterists.org.uk/bee-fly-watch

Buglife is a great place to find out about current surveys you can get involved with - www.buglife.org.uk/get-involved/surveys/ including at the moment, the oil beetle hunt. They also provide links to other national surveys, such as glow worms and stag beetles.

A lot of the organisations featured in this list are being hit financially by the current situation, so if you enjoy the free resources, and can afford to, please consider a donation.

If you are inspired to grow wildflowers or vegetables, please consider Grow Wilder – Avon Wildlife Trust's online shop, direct from the Trust's nursery to our door - www.growwilder.co.uk/.

Keep in touch with Bathscape

info@bathscape.co.uk
www.bathscape.co.uk

