

Cub Scout Naturalist badge

Red Pack were very pleased to have the opportunity to visit St John's churchyard and wildlife conservation area four times from April to July this year to observe and note the changes in the plants and wildlife. During the course of the visits cubs learnt to identify different living things in most of the categories especially minibeasts and insects and wild flowers. Cubs had already learnt the countryside code and were able to follow it. Cubs enjoyed creating their own pieces of art using natural materials that they collected in the churchyard, they did bark rubbings and made a wildlife habitat that they installed in the conservation area with help from Colin Nash.



We were all very grateful that Colin was able to support Red Pack to achieve this badge as he joined us for several of our visits and shared his enthusiasm and knowledge.



In order to get their badge, the cubs have to complete the following requirements.

Naturalist Activity Badge

How to earn your badge

1. Learn how to identify six different living things from two of these categories:

- trees
- garden birds
- water birds
- minibeasts and insects
- wild flowers
- pond dwellers
- fungi
- butterflies and moths



That means you should have 12 examples in total.

2. Over three months, visit the same natural area at least four times. Take a note of the changes in the plants and wildlife that you see. You might visit a garden, hedgerow, canal, river lake or park. Make sure that you have an adult's permission for the visits.

3. Learn the countryside code and how to follow it.

4. Choose one of these activities to do:

- Create a piece of art using natural material. You could do a bark or leaf rubbing, dried flower picture or maybe a collage.
- Use a dye that uses natural ingredients to colour a piece of material.
- Make a feeding station for birds. Get permission to hang it in a good position.
- Make a hedgehog, ladybird or bee house.
- With an adult pick wild edible berries, leaves or fruit. Use them in a recipe.