

Garden bird detective



Download at <https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-07/gbirds.jpg>

THINGS TO DO IN JANUARY











- Can you find hazel catkins?
- Look in the snow or mud for animal tracks and work out what has made them
- Learn to identify birds in the garden or school grounds
- Take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch at the end of January

RESOURCES

1. Garden bird detective
<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-07/gbirds.jpg>
2. Craft an owl mask
<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-07/owl-mask.jpg>
3. Fill in a migratory bird wordsearch
https://www.treetoolsforschools.org.uk/activities/pdfs/pdf_migratory_bird_wordsearch.pdf
4. Identify tracks in the snow
<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/identify-prints-snow>

TRACKING TRACKS

Here are some common tracks of our British wildlife that you may see plus other things to look for: –

<p>FOX</p> 	<p>Foxes will often leave a smelly mark.</p>
<p>BADGER</p> 	<p>Droppings, 10cms long which are left in a specially dug hole about 10cms deep. They are not covered over.</p>
<p>RABBIT</p> 	<p>Lots of small round droppings.</p>
<p>BROWN HARE</p> 	<p>Hares will bite off the ends of shoots on young trees. They do not always eat the shoots – they can often be found lying on the ground.</p>
<p>HEDGEHOG</p> 	<p>Small dark-coloured droppings, 3.4cms long, with a pointed end. Often made up of insects, fur, feathers, bones or remains of berries.</p>
<p>GREY SQUIRREL</p> 	<p>Nibbled hazelnuts. The shell shows a rough hole with teeth marks.</p>
<p>WATER VOLE</p> 	<p>Bank burrows 6–8 cms in diameter with grazed edges.</p>
<p>HOUSE MOUSE</p> 	<p>Lots of tiny black droppings.</p>
<p>BARN OWL</p> 	<p>Pellets found below roosting and nest sites.</p>
<p>DORMOUSE</p> 	<p>Nibbled hazelnuts. Dormice leave a clean edge. They nibble the nut near to the top.</p>