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Opening extract from
Let's Look in Woods & Forests

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WITH THANKS TO

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LET'S LOOK IN WOODS & FORESTS



HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Woods and forests are exciting and mysterious places. Many of the animals in them are shy, so tread quietly if you want to see them. Never pick or eat anything you find as it may be poisonous. Use this guide to...



...read about some fascinating forest dwellers and discover what is so amazing about them.



...take outside with you to see what you can find and identify, then tick off the things you see.



...have fun playing with the stickers on the fold-out woodland play scene at the back.

Harder to spot

dog violet



goldcrest



ground beetle



hornbeam



fox



fly agaric



wood mouse



owl



rowan



elm



squirrel



treecreeper



wild garlic



great spotted woodpecker



chicken of the woods



nuthatch



buzzard



spruce



deer



field maple



nuthatch



larch

owl pellets



Know your leaves

Most evergreen trees have slender leaves called needles. Trees that lose their leaves in winter have bigger, broader leaves. Here is a guide to some of the most common leaf shapes.



alder



ash



beech



birch



hawthorn



elder



sweet chestnut



hazel



holly



oak



horse chestnut



yew

Fruits of the forest

In the autumn, forests are full of food for animals to eat. This helps them survive through the winter, when food is scarce. Never pick or eat forest plants – they could be poisonous.



Acorns

These small nuts come from oak trees. Many forest animals, such as birds and squirrels, eat them.

Blackberries
Watch the berries ripen from August to September, turning green, then red, then black.



Fungi

Fungi grow out of the ground or on trees. Some are edible but many are poisonous.



Hazelnuts
Squirrels love these nuts and store them in the autumn to eat in winter.

Wild strawberries
These small woodland plants like shady places. The berries ripen from May to July.



Cones

Cones are from conifer trees. They start off green and then turn brown before they fall.



Sycamore seeds
Try spinning these papery winged seeds into the air on a blustery autumn day.