

7-spot ladybird

Record the date you first see a 7-spot ladybird emerging from winter shelter. This familiar beetle has bright red to orange wing cases with seven black spots. There are three spots on each wing case, with the seventh split over both wings towards the front. If the spot pattern is different, it is probably another species so please don't record that.

When: late February to May



Silver birch

Look out for leaves first appearing in spring and then falling in autumn. Silver birch has smooth, silvery-white bark. The leaves are oval with double-toothed serrations along the edges. Male catkins are long, drooping and yellow, and female catkins are slender, green and upright. **When:** mid-March to May (leaves), November (leaves falling)



Rowan

Record the first time you see the new leaves, flowers and ripe fruit. Rowan leaves are feather-shaped with 5-8 pairs of leaflets arranged along the central vein and an additional leaflet at the end. The bark is smooth and grey-green, the flowers grow in dense clusters and are small and creamy white, and the fruits are scarlet berries that hang in clusters.

When: mid-March (leaves), mid-April (flowers), August to September (ripe fruit)



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**Record wildlife on your
doorstep with Nature's Calendar**

We ♥ street trees



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Nature's Calendar

Help the Woodland Trust by letting us know what's happening where you live.

Nature's Calendar is all about recording the familiar signs of the seasons, like spotting the first ladybird of the year in your garden or the first conkers in your street.

Your records help scientists to monitor the effects of climate change on our wildlife. And information from towns and cities, like where you live, is especially valuable to us as they may already be warmer than the surrounding countryside due to a 'heat island' effect from hard surfaces like roads and buildings.



How it works

Step 1:

Choose a location that you visit regularly (at least once or twice a week). It could be your garden, local woodland or the street trees that you pass every day.

Step 2:

Look out for seasonal events like birds feeding their young, new leaves emerging or leaves falling from the trees. Check your location every day until you see these things happening for the first time.

Step 3:

Record the date that you first see each event online at naturescalendar.org.uk. You can view your record instantly on the live maps.

Find
out more
naturescalendar.org.uk

Here's a list of familiar seasonal wildlife events you're most likely to see on your street or in your garden but there are many more to record.



Blackbird

Record the date that you first see adult blackbirds carrying food to their nests to feed their young. Look for adult birds with beaks full of worms and caterpillars. Males have black plumage and a bright yellow beak. Females have brown plumage, a mottled breast and a brownish beak. Please take care not to get too close to nests as the adults may abandon them. **When:** mid-March to May

Horse chestnut

Look out for first leaves, first flowers and ripe conkers. Horse chestnut trees have distinctive hand-shaped leaves separated into five leaflets with flowers in white or pale pink clusters. Avoid recording the red horse chestnut which has dark pink or red flowers and smooth conker cases. **When:** March (first leaves), April (flowers), mid-August to October (conkers)



Bluetit

Record the date that you first see adult blue tits carrying food (often caterpillars) to their nests to feed their young. Adults have yellow breasts, white cheeks with a dark eye band, and a blue cap. Don't confuse them with the great tit which has a black cap and black stripe down its breast. **When:** March to May

Queen red-tailed bumblebee

Record the date you first see an active queen red tailed bumblebee. Queens are up to 22mm long, whereas workers can be as small as house flies (8-12mm). Both have a black, round, hairy body with an orange-red tail. The queen is the only member of the colony that survives the winter. She will first lay eggs that hatch as workers and, later in the season, lay eggs that become the males.

When: March to May

