

Spring spots

As the weather warms up plants grow, flowers bloom and creatures get more active.

How many of these spring sights can you spot?



lesser celandine

The lesser celandine belongs to the buttercup family. You can tell the difference between them by their flower heads - buttercups have very round petals whereas the lesser celandine has thinner, pointy petals that make it look a bit like a star.

It has dark green, heart-shaped leaves.

The flower head closes up in the shade and before it rains.

water boatman

Water boatmen spend most of their time at the bottom of ponds or slow-moving rivers.

Their two hind legs are long like oars, which they use to 'paddle' through water.

They look a bit like rowing boats when they're swimming.



ants



There are more ants on Earth than any other animal - in fact, if you added together the weight of all the creatures in the world 10% of the total weight would be ants!

Ants are also super-strong - they can lift or carry more than three times their own weight.

Ants are omnivorous - they eat plants, other animals, anything edible.



green shield bug



They get their name from their bodies which are shaped like shields.

They turn brown during winter, then back to green again in spring.

They are sometimes called Green Stink Bugs because they secrete a stinky liquid when they are disturbed or threatened.

molehills

Although they can make a big mess with their molehills, moles are actually quite small - only 9-16.5cm on average • They have black velvety fur and their front paws are like spades - good for digging • They can tunnel up to 20m a day! - they can tunnel underground • Molehills are made by moles tunnelling underground



Start your own adventure at naturedetectives.org.uk