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activity sheet

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SIGNS OF SUNNY SPRING

(and how to detect them)

After winter comes spring and our natural surroundings burst into life! Here are some tips to become a nature super sleuth.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- All-weather clothes that are good for getting outdoors.
- All of your senses to take in the sights, sounds and smells of spring.
- A pair of binoculars (if you have them) to get closer to nature.

Let's spot the signs that spring is approaching!



BLOSSOM TREES

After a long winter, bare branches produce pretty pastel petals overnight (some flower as early as February).

Look out for... the most common types in the UK, hawthorn, blackthorn and apple.

BUZZING BEES

The humble bumble-bee usually awakens from hibernation in March.

Look out for... trees that bloom early like blackthorn because bees love their pollen.



BUSY BIRDS

Listen out for cheery birdsong early in the mornings and enjoy it late into the afternoon.

Look out for... nests in shrubs, bushes and tall trees, as busy birds build homes for their tiny chicks (but don't disturb!).

LONGER DAYS

After the winter equinox (the shortest day of the year), each day has more daylight hours and gets warmer.

Look out for... spring sunsets that mark the end of the day and the clocks springing forward in March.



BUDDING BUDS

The bursting leaf buds of our native trees are one of the first signs of spring.

Look out for... trees in your local park, on your road or in your garden. It's happening all around!



WAKING WILDFLOWERS

No such thing as weeds! Lawns and grassy areas erupt with colour as wildflowers wake from their winter's sleep.

Look out for... dandelions, daisies, primroses and buttercups that all provide an important early source of nectar for bees and other pollinators.



Another sure sign of spring in the Valleys is the appearance of little lambs, playfully prancing with the joys of the season. **Look out for different breeds of sheep** - some are fluffy, some are brown and others even have horns!

happy detecting!

Parc Rhanbarthol
y Cymoedd



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