



Ventnor Botanic Garden Nature Hunt!



Explore the garden and try to find each nature feature we have here!

What can you find in the nooks & crannies of Britain's Hottest Garden?

Lady Bird - Look for them amongst the foliage. Ladybirds are a gardener's friend because they feed on aphids or greenfly.

Honey Bee - Look for them visiting flowers all around the Garden. They visit open flowers to collect nectar but, in doing so, they also transfer pollen from one flower to another thereby pollinating the plants.

Butterfly - Several different butterflies visit the flowers in the Garden on sunny days for energy-rich nectar. Look especially for red Admiral, Peacock and painted Lady.

Robin - Our Robins in the Garden are quite tame. They are bringing up young at this time of year so they are busy collecting grubs and other insects to feed their babies.

Terrapin - Our Yellow-bellied Slider Terrapins come from North America but are living happily in our pond where they eat pondweed, insects and pond snails. They spend most of their time in the water, just coming up for air, but they also like to bask in the sunshine.

Land Hopper - If you lift up some fallen dead leaves or leaf litter, you are likely to see littler jumping creatures. These are a land-living type of shrimp. They come from Australia but have been accidentally spread in the soil when plants are moved around. They thrive in our mild climate.

Damsel Fly - If you look around the pond on a sunny day you will see brightly coloured, slim bodied dragonflies. These are damselflies. There are Small Red Damselflies and Common Blue Damselflies. They spend most of their lives as nymphs, under water, but the adults are emerging now and flying around looking for a mate. If you are fortunate, you can sometimes see the male clasping the female behind her head whilst she deposits her eggs in the water.

Red Squirrel - They are quite shy; look for them in the quieter wooded parts of the Garden. The Isle of Wight is one of the very last places in England where Red Squirrels can still be seen. On most of the mainland, the introduced Grey Squirrel has taken over and the native Red Squirrel has been lost.

Ventnor Botanic Garden, Undercliff Drive, Ventnor, PO38 1UL

Visit www.botanic.co.uk for news & events

01983 855397





Use the boxes provided as a checklist or to see how many of each nature item you can find!

