



# Winter Woodland Walk

SOUTH-YORKSHIRE  
forest  
A National community forest Partner

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## DECEMBER—JANUARY—FEBRUARY

When you first enter the wood in winter there does not seem much to see but if you use all your senses you will soon discover that a winter walk in the woods is just as fascinating as any time of the year. Tick the box when you see each of these.

### Groups of Feeding Birds.

Stand quietly and listen.  
You may hear groups of small birds like blue tits or long-tailed tits moving through the wood feeding.

### Winter Silhouettes of Trees.

Look at the different patterns that the branches of each sort of tree makes in winter.  
Do a painting of the pattern.

### Squirrels

Grey squirrels are active right through the winter, especially on bright days. You are almost sure to spot one on your walk. It is easier to spot their large nests in the treetops in winter.

### Tree Buds

Look carefully at the different shapes, patterns and colours of the buds of different trees.  
Draw some carefully.

### Resident Birds

Winter is the best time to watch and listen to our resident woodland birds such as jays, blackbirds, robins and wrens.  
Look out for winter visitors like redwings and fieldfares.

### Evergreen Trees and Plants.

Not all the plants are bare. Look for evergreen plants like holly, ivy and ferns.

### Sounds

Listen to the quietness of the wood in winter or the sounds of the wind through the bare branches.

### Shoots of Plants

The green shoots of plants which grow from bulbs under the ground will start to appear in February.

### Tree Seeds

Look amongst the dead leaves for acorns and beech seeds. Some of them may already be starting to grow. Take a few to grow in the classroom or at home.

### Signs of Animals

Try to find clues like nibbled pine cones and acorns with teeth marks that tell you that wood mice or squirrels have been feeding. In very cold weather animals may even nibble the bark of trees.

### Animal Tracks

Look carefully in soft mud or snow to spot tracks of rabbits, badgers and birds.  
Draw them carefully.

### Creatures under Logs and Stones

Look carefully under logs and stones to spot creatures that are sheltering from the cold. Make sure you put them back carefully though!

