Outdoor Treasure Hunt

The Wolf Cub Books No. 7
Editor’s Note:

The reader is reminded that these texts have been written a long time ago. Consequently, they may use some terms or express sentiments which were current at the time, regardless of what we may think of them at the beginning of the 21st century. For reasons of historical accuracy they have been preserved in their original form.

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OUTDOOR TREASURE HUNT

120 THINGS FOR CUBS TO LOOK FOR

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Outdoor Treasure Hunt

*A primrose by a river's brim A yellow primrose was to him
And it was nothing more.*

Wordsworth

So wrote the poet of Peter Bell, the potter, who, surrounded by beauty, appreciated nothing of it. The Cub way is different. Before his two eyes are open he is taught to be aware of all that is going on about him.

Baden-Powell, our Founder, particularly stressed the importance of learning to use eyes and ears and nose and hands and mind. Quite a list isn't it! Still, he helps us with the many yarns he tells in *The Wolf Cub's Handbook* to show how and why.

For instance, how young wolves learn to look after themselves in the wild. They learn to watch birds and animals day by day so as to learn their habits, just as a boy Wolf Cub also does. But the boy's object is to know more about them, whereas the young wolf does it because he then knows how best to hunt them and catch them for his dinner. And why—B.-P. tells of many occasions during his eventful Army life when a few broken twigs, a baboon's cry, an unusual scent in the night, told him all he needed to know of his enemy's movements.

I know it is most unusual for a lively Cub to stand still, but have you ever stood quite still in an apparently deserted wood? Apart from all the easily noticeable things, bird calls and so on, there are faint cracklings underfoot and armies of tiny creatures are scurrying round your feet all with a purpose in their tiny lives. It's a wonderful idea, this stop-listen. Only in a quiet wood, field, or even your own garden, will many a creature behave naturally and you will learn more about them than hours of studying books.

Nevertheless, use this Treasure Hunt as a sort of preliminary to your outdoor excursions. How many things will you know at first, quite a lot I expect. Fifty is a good score. Then go through it again and look up the index. Now put the book in your pocket for reference when you go out, and check up on your observations when you come back.

This book is divided into four quarters for easier grouping, calendar months have not been used because with our erratic climate the weather controls the movements of all nature more than the calendar. I know the celandine means Spring to me because it's usually the first wild flower I notice, what will yours be?

Good hunting to you, use the book well. Note down the dates when you discover the various things. Your hunt is up when all the drawings are dated (what a job you will have!), but for a useful alternative you might count up at the end of each quarter and note your score. Check all the time with other Cubs in the Pack to see who is ahead—here's hoping you win.
off on the hunt

First Quarter
TWO OF THESE WILL BE DIFFICULT TO SEE, BUT YOU CAN SEE THEIR SIGNS, WHICH ARE THEY?
On a fine spring day — or later?
AN EASY CLUE TO ONE OF THEM. YOU WILL PLAY GAMES WITH ITS FRUIT LATER IN THE YEAR!
THE EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM!
BUT WHICH BIRD IS IT?
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WHAT ARE THEY? No. 20 HAS SEVERAL NAMES.
How many living things by this stream? Can you name—say 20.
WHAT WAS YOUR SCORE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER?
HERE'S AN EASY FOUR TO START YOU OFF AGAIN.
CAN YOU NAME AND COLOUR THESE BIRDS
WHERE WOULD YOU FIND THEM ALL?

13
A BIRD WITH STRANGE HABITS, WHAT ARE THEY?
WHAT IS COMMON TO ALL THESE BLOSSOMS?
No. 39 gives its own clue to its name.
Don't be scared of the name of No. 49, he's a beautiful creature, but beware the spikes of No. 45.
ALL THESE ARE FAIRLY COMMON, AND SHOULD HELP ALONG YOUR SCORE.
THIRD QUARTER

HOW IS YOUR SCORE NOW? KEEP GOING!

19
YOU MAY KNOW THEIR NAMES, BUT WHERE DO YOU FIND THEM?
20
IN THE FARMER'S FIELD, FRIENDS OR FOES?
TO WHAT TYPE OF TREE DO THESE FRUITS BELONG?
In what way do all these trees differ from those on opposite page?
WOULD YOU SEE THEM ALTOGETHER?
ALL IN THE BENCHCROWS? OR WHERE!
FOURTH QUARTER

THE TREE THESE ANIMALS ARE SITTING ON, IS AN 'ODD' CONIFER, DO YOU KNOW WHY?
ONLY AT NIGHT?

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ON THE SEASHORE
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FIRST QUARTER

1. Daffodils.
2. Mole. He leaves little heaps of fine soil which is a sign that he has tunneled underneath.
3. Wheatear. Found on downs, cliffs and open places. Eggs are pale turquoise blue.
4. Badger. You may be able to find his “set” (home). He comes out mainly at night.
5. Celandine.
7. Small Tortoiseshell Butterfly and Caterpillar. Its eggs are laid in clusters, on nettles.
8. Gorse.
9. Yellow Brimstone Butterfly and Caterpillar. Its eggs are laid on buckthorn or alder.
11. Birch Tree Outline in January. The leaves and catkins will not be seen until early Spring.
13. Crow. It can be seen in most places. Eggs are bluish green, blotched with brown.
15. Hare. It does not burrow like a rabbit but makes “forms” in thick grass.
17. Chaffinches. Often seen in gardens, but they do not like cities. Eggs are grey tinged pink, with brown spots.
18. Crocus.
19. Ivy.
22. The Quiz page. Did you find 20 in all? Rook, Woodpecker, Wren, Swan, Cygnets (Baby Swans), Mallard (Duck), Lambs, Dragon-fly, Stickleback (Tiddler), Snail, Ladybird, Bee, Primroses, Violets, Daffodils, Bulrushes, Birch Trees, Oak Tree Trunk, Horse, Water Spider (with air bubble).

What was your score?
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SECOND QUARTER

23. Buttercups.
24. Daisy.
25. Cowslips.
27. Thrush. Found in woods, fields and in your garden. Its eggs are turquoise, spotted black.
28. Willow Warbler. Found especially in woods and copses. Its eggs are white, speckled light red.
29. Herring Gull. Found on the coast, occasionally inland. Its eggs are olive green blotched with brown.
30. Frog, Tadpoles and spawn: found in ponds.
31. Kingfisher. Found on lakes, rivers and streams; occasionally on the coast. Its eggs are white and round.
32. Blackbird. Found most everywhere. Its eggs are greenish blue speckled with brown.
33. Apple Blossom.
34. Cuckoo. Found in most parts of the country. Lays its eggs in other birds’ nests; the eggs vary in colour.
35. Cherry Blossom.
36. Pear Blossom.

Note: 33, 35 and 36 are all fruit trees.
37. Painted Lady Butterfly and Caterpillar. Its eggs are laid singly on thistle leaves.
38. Otter. “Holt” (its home) on a bank, probably with the entrance under water.
39. Swallow Tail Butterfly and Caterpillar. Its eggs are laid on milk parsley.
40. Green Stick Caterpillars.
41. Lizard.
42. Hawthorn Blossom.
43. Emperor Hawk Moth and Cocoon. It hatches on heather.
44. Dragonfly and Larva.
45. Hedgehog, he finds his food at night.
46. Bluebells.
47. Humble Bee in a flower.
48. Foxglove.
49. Marsh Marigold.

Your score any better?
50. Larch Tree, Cones and Flowers.
51. House Martin. Found in most places. Its eggs are white.
52. Swallow. Found in woods, fields and gardens. Eggs are white, spotted brown.
53. Swift. Again found in most places. Its eggs are white.
54. Robin. It is found most everywhere. Eggs white, speckled red.
55. Starling. Watch his “policeman-like” walk; he is found even in towns. Eggs are pale blue.
56. Oats.
57. Wheat.
58. Cornflower.
59. Harvest Mouse. He is very destructive to the farmers’ crops; makes his nest in wheat.
60. Poppy.
61. Barley.
62. White Clover.

*These are all deciduous trees, and shed their leaves in winter.*

63. Horse Chestnut Leaves, Fruit and Flower.
64. Oak Leaves and Acorn.
65. Plane Trees Leaves with Fruit.
66. Sycamore Leaves, Keys and Flowers.

*These trees are all conifers (cone bearing) and are evergreen.*

68. Cypress Cone and Leaves.
69. Scots Pine, Cones and Needles.
70. Silver Fir Cone and Leaves.
71. Cedar Cones and Needle-shaped Leaves.
72. Spruce Cone and Needles.
73. Wild Rose.
74. Common White Butterfly with Caterpillar; lays its eggs on cabbage.
75. Red Admiral Butterfly with Caterpillar. Lays its eggs on nettle leaves and young shoots.
76. Honeysuckle.
77. Rose Hips.
78. Pied Wagtail. Found in fields and woods, sometimes near water. Its eggs are whitish with grey speckles.
79. Wild Arum, or Cuckoo Pint.
80. Hawthorn Fruit (Haws).
81. Wild Scabious.
82. Traveller’s Joy. The seeds are sometimes called “Old Man’s Beard”.

This was a difficult quarter — one to go!

FOURTH QUARTER

83. Red Squirrel.
84. Grey Squirrel. Much more common, sometimes regarded as a pest.
85. Larch Tree. Although it is a conifer (cone bearing) tree, it loses its leaves in winter and therefore is not evergreen.
86. Beech Nuts.
87. Blackberries.
88. Sloe Berries.
89. Pheasant. Found in woods and thick coverts. Eggs are pale olive.
90. Little Owl. Found chiefly in woods.
91. Orion. The brightest star at the bottom is known as Orion’s Sword.
92. Bat.
93. Weasel.
94. Toads.
95. Willow, Purple Osier.
96. Dandelion, and Puff Balls.
97. Mushrooms.
98. Scarlet Fly Caps, or Fly Agaric (they are poisonous).
99. Mistletoe, growing on a Poplar Tree.
100. Part of the trunk of a Plane Tree.
101. Fox.
102. Oak Apple or Gall.
103. Woody Nightshade (poisonous).
104. Deadly Nightshade (poisonous).
105. Yew.
106. Holly.
107. Thrift.
108. Blue Tit. Found in most places. Eggs are white, spotted light red.
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109. Scallop Shell,
110. Crab.
111. Bladder Wrack Seaweed.
112. Mussel Shells.
113. Common Gull. Eggs are olive green, spotted buff or greeny blue.
114. Sea Lavender.
115. Whelk Shells.
116. Limpets.
117. Starfish.
118. Crane-fly; or Daddy-long-legs.
119. Stag Beetle.
120. Shrew. Lives in ditches in the winter, but more in the open in summer. It would die if it went without food for more than three hours!

Well, that's the end of the Hunt. How many did you manage to score?

*Did you spot the deliberate mistake: A crab has eight legs!*