

The Great WWT

Your challenge:
**FIND ALL
12 INSECTS**
and tick them off this list.

GARDEN Bug Hunt Spotter Sheet

Your garden and neighbourhood is home to **extraordinary insect life**.



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1. Butterfly

Main features: Large patterned, colourful wings, folded vertically above body when at rest. Antennae ('feelers') with clubbed ends.

Where to look: Flitting around anywhere on warm sunny days, especially near flowers.



© Kentish Plumber @ flickr

7. Water boatman

Main features: Oval shaped bugs in water. Long legs act as paddles to swim upside down, often just under the water surface.

Where to look: In ponds or larger areas of calm water. Often found when pond dipping.



© Mark Kent @ flickr

2. Bee / Wasp

Main features: Buzzy insects with striped, hairy bodies. Quite small transparent wings. Can sting when unhappy!

Where to look: Anywhere, especially around flowers. Wasps can be attracted to sweet stuff (like your ice cream).



© Kinright @ flickr

8. Hoverfly

Main features: Fly-like with transparent wings. Variable colours and shapes. Many mimic bees or wasps but all are harmless and don't sting.

Where to look: Like to feed on plants like cow parsley. Hovering and darting flight, more purposeful than bees or wasps.



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3. Ladybird

Main features: Small, round insects with short legs and variable colours of spotted 'shell'. Can fly, after pulling back the wing covers.

Where to look: Often found crawling around on plants, especially ones where aphids live - their favourite food.



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9. Crane fly

Main features: Very leggy flies with two transparent wings which are much shorter than the legs. Males have pointed body ends and those of a female are blunt.

Where to look: Clinging to vertical surfaces like trees or buildings. Although common, they're sometimes hard to see.



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4. Dragonfly

Main features: Large insects, big eyes, long brightly coloured body and four large, transparent wings. At rest, the wings are held out as if still flying.

Where to look: Strong fliers, often seen patrolling their patch around wetlands, or perching and then dashing out to catch their prey.



© Mark Kempe @ flickr

10. Grasshopper / Cricket

Main features: Stout with big back legs for jumping. Long antennae. Males of most species 'sing' or chirp, so you might hear one first.

Where to look: Listen out in grassy areas. Often well camouflaged. When disturbed, they'll jump!



© WWT

5. Damselfly

Main features: Long, slender bodies with eyes set wide apart. Four transparent wings, folded along top of body at rest. Often brightly coloured.

Where to look: Seen delicately flying around wetlands and perching on plants near water. Weaker fliers than dragonflies.



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11. Beetle

Main features: Beetles have tough front wings (elytra), which form part of their backs' armoured, shell-like covering. Their wings are tucked underneath.

Where to look: They're the commonest insect in the world and are found everywhere in lots of different shapes and sizes.

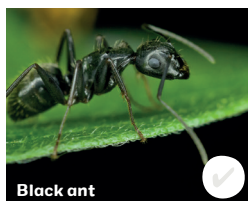


© Brad Smith @ flickr

6. Pond skater

Main features: Slim, leggy bugs with long antennae. Some have wings. Skates quickly over the water surface.

Where to look: In ponds and calm areas of water, look for indentations on the surface which seem to move.



© Evan Kane @ flickr

12. Ant

Main features: Skinny insects with obvious three part bodies and antennae with 'elbows'. Usually wingless and always living in colonies.

Where to look: On the ground. Where there's one, there's always more! They nest underground, under stones or buildings.



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