

# Churchyard nature hunt



10 Are there signs of bats? \_\_\_\_\_

Our churchyards are rich with biodiversity, what can you find?  
Keep score and fill in the table on the reverse.

1 Listen, how many birds can you see & hear? \_\_\_\_\_

2 How many types of plant can you see? \_\_\_\_\_

3 Is there a place to sit? \_\_\_\_\_

4 How many invertebrates can you see? \_\_\_\_\_

5 How many trees are there? \_\_\_\_\_

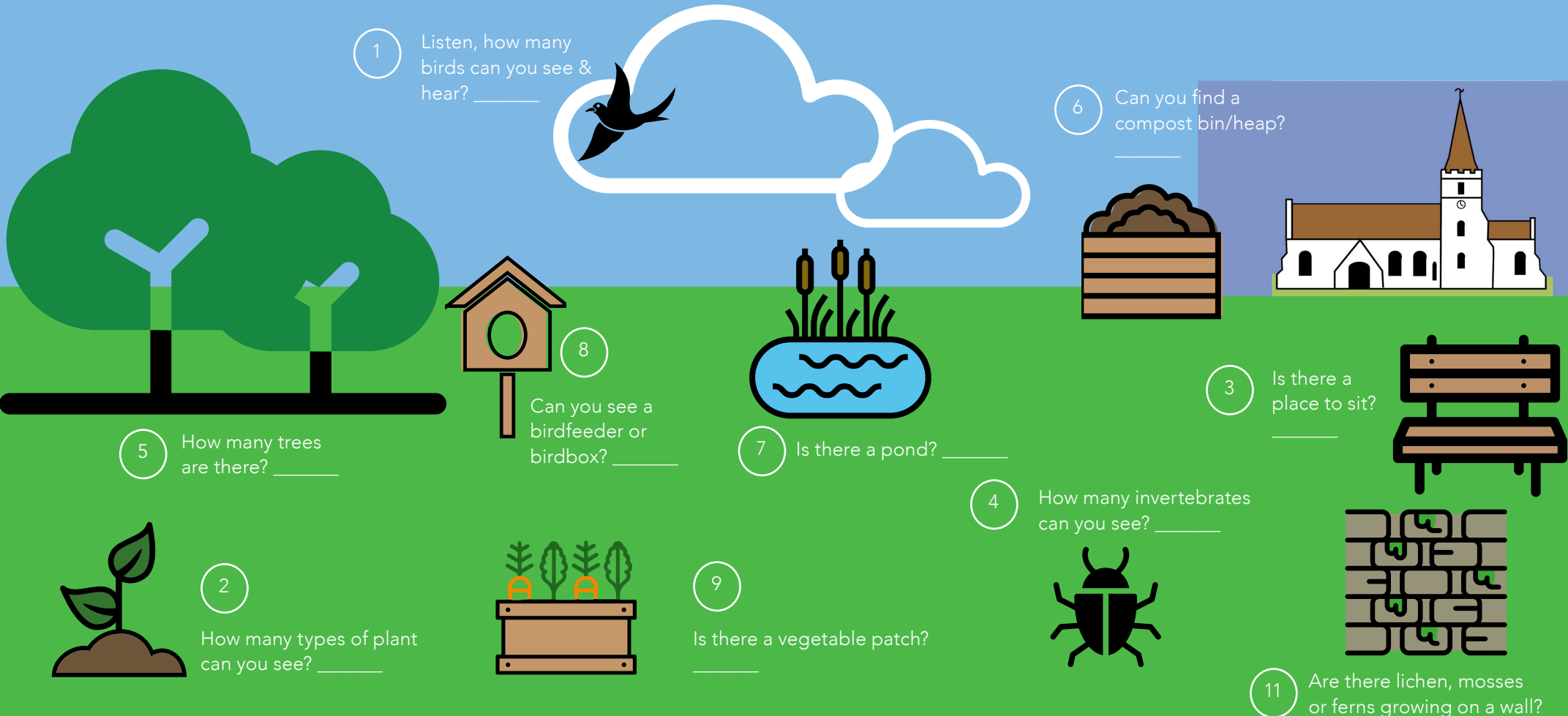
6 Can you find a compost bin/heap? \_\_\_\_\_

7 Is there a pond? \_\_\_\_\_

8 Can you see a birdfeeder or birdbox? \_\_\_\_\_

9 Is there a vegetable patch? \_\_\_\_\_

11 Are there lichen, mosses or ferns growing on a wall? \_\_\_\_\_



Not sure what bird you can hear or what tree you are looking at? Try these species identification guides. [rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides](http://rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides) and [woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife)

For information about churchyard plants, bats, swifts and much more, visit [oxford.anglican.org/environmental-action](http://oxford.anglican.org/environmental-action) and [plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wild-plants-nature](http://plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wild-plants-nature)

Learn about churchyard management for wildlife and heritage at [caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources](http://caringforgodsacre.org.uk/resources) and [ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/resources/land](http://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/resources/land)

**Church name & location** \_\_\_\_\_

**Go out into the churchyard/garden and keep score of what you find.**

Please take a photo of your completed survey and email it to [environment@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:environment@oxford.anglican.org).

	Points	Score	Max score
Can you see birds or hear birds singing? How many different species can you hear?	1-2 = 1 point 3-5 = 2 points + 5 = 5 points		5
Are there areas of longer grass with wildflowers?	5 points		5
Measure out (or estimate) one square metre of grassland/lawn, one in long grass and one in short grass areas. How many different types of plant (species) do you see?	5-10 = 1 point 11-15 = 3 points +15 = 5 points		10
Look closely in each square metre, how many different types of invertebrates can you see (beetle, ant, spider, etc.)?	3-4 = 1 point 5-7 = 3 points +8 = 5 points		10
How many trees can you see? Are any old enough to have holes in the trunk for wildlife to use?	1-2 = 1 point 3-5 = 2 points +5 = 5 points 2 extra points for old trees		7
Can you find a compost heap or bin? If not, is there a space for one?	5 points for composting 2 points for a possible location		5
Are there any log or leaf piles wildlife might hide in? Don't disturb them!	5 points		5
Are there any bird nesting boxes, bat boxes, dormouse boxes, bug hotels or hedgehog homes?	5 points		5
Are there any bird feeders?	5 points		5

	Points	Score	Max score
Is there a pond or wetland area?	5 points		5
Are there old gravestones with different mosses & lichens on them?	5 points		5
Is there a stone wall or a fence?	2 points for stone wall		8
Are there ferns, mosses, or lichens growing on it?	4 points for ferns/ mosses/ lichens.		
Does the fence or wall have gaps under it that a hedgehog could use?	2 points for a hedgehog gap		
Is there a visitors notice explaining about wildlife or why some areas are mown less often?	5 points		5
Do swifts nest in the church building? Ask a churchwarden if they know.	5 points		5
Do bats use the church building? There might be droppings on windowsills or the ground. Ask a churchwarden if they know.	5 points		5
Is there a seat for visitors to sit on?	5 points		5
Is there a vegetable plot or any fruit trees?	5 points		5
	TOTAL		Max: 100