



# Flight Trail



Many plants and animals have evolved ways of flying through the air - some flap wings, some glide and others behave more like parachutes or helicopters. How many flying things can you spot today at Wildwood?

## Seeds



Dandelion 'clocks' (left) and thistle heads are made up of many seeds like this one (right). When the wind blows, the dandelion clocks shudder and the seeds are carried away.



How many clocks can you find?

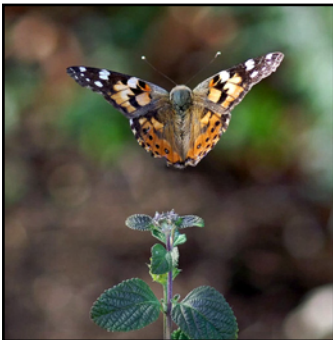
How many seeds are there in a dandelion or thistle clock?



Can you find any seeds like these from an ash tree? They fall and spin in the wind like mini-helicopters. Look at the trees and plants along the edge of the paths the park as you walk round. How many different kinds of seeds on trees and plants can you find?

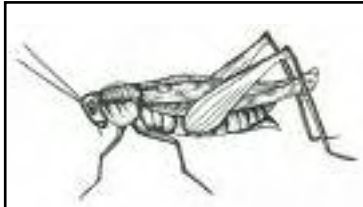
Minibeasts use many different types of movement to get around - scuttling, jumping, flapping wings and 'sailing' on silk threads. Can you decide how each of the animals below gets about?

## Minibeasts



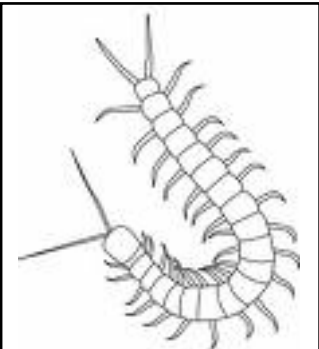
A butterfly.....?

A grasshopper.....?



A spider.....?

A centipede.....?



# Birds



Tawny owls have short stubby wings with softly fringed feathers for silent flight.

How many tawny owls can you see at Wildwood?



Peregrine falcons fold their wings to plummet out of the sky to catch birds below.



Hummingbirds have short, pointed wings that can beat up to 80 times a second, making them blur.

Do they remind you of any flying insects at Wildwood?  
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# Frogs



Frogs are not true fliers but some tree frogs can spread their toes and use their webbed feet as parachutes to glide between rainforest trees.

What are human parachutes made of?  
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# Mammals



Sugar gliders in America have folds of skin between their front and back legs which open when they jump out of a tree and help them to glide downwards.



Flying foxes are the largest bats in the world and have fox-like heads. They settle in fruit trees, holding on with their toes and hanging upside down to eat fruit.



Bats have extended hands which have evolved into wings - the delicate bones on their wings are actually their finger bones.

Without their wings, what do they remind you of?  
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