

## Take a walk on the wild side....

Explore Cruickshank Botanic Garden to find all the areas that are great for wildlife. Look out for all the animals and birds that live in the garden, but be careful not to disturb any of them.

### Meadow Vista

Look into the sunken garden to see the wildflowers growing. This meadow will be a haven for a range of invertebrates, which will help pollinate the flowers that you see around you. An area of wilderness in your garden will help provide habitats for wildlife.

### Hawthorn Hedge

Hawthorn is a native Scottish shrub/tree that is often used to create hedges. This superb tree provides food for up to 150 different insects, making it a great addition to a wildlife area.



### Oak Tree



Oak trees are the most important wildlife tree that in Britain, as they provide a huge amount of resources. These trees can live to over a 1000 years, and will provide food, nesting sites, deadwood habitats and shelter for many animals.



### Log Pile

Log piles are a great habitat for minibeasts, known to scientists as invertebrates. These animals, (which don't have a backbone) are the most numerous group of animals on the planet, and do many important jobs. They are food for larger animals, higher up the food chain, but also help decay dead and rotting plants material, returning the nutrients to the soil.

### Native Hedge

A mixed hedge can provide food and shelter for many species of animals. Flowering hedge plants can provide pollen and nectar for insects, and berries provide food for many species of animals. Animals can also use hedges as corridors joining different areas of habitat.

### Herbaceous Border

This wonderful border full of seasonal flowers, looks its best throughout the summer months. Walk slowly alongside the border and look carefully – you may see some of the resident bumblebees, butterflies and honeybees which visit the flowers to collect nectar and pollen.

### Ponds

Ponds are a fantastic water source for the wildlife that lives in the garden. If you stand very still and look in the ponds you may see insects moving about. These ponds are also home to various amphibian species (toads, frogs and newts), which are threatened in this country.