

Family Nature Walk for May and June We designed this to be of interest to children of about 7 to 13, accompanied by parents. Be careful when crossing the roads.

	Point on the Map	What You Might See and Hyperlinks	Why this matters
1	Tanyard Pond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moorhens ○ Mallard Duck ○ Kingfisher ○ Marsh Marigold 	Ponds are brilliant for supporting all sorts of wildlife - insects, birds and animals. You might see some fish in the water. This pond supports a range of birds and other wildlife. Dragonflies and other water insects might visit. Herons visit the ponds too. The Kingfisher is an occasional visitor. If you see a flash of iridescent blue, that is the Kingfisher.
2	Tanyard Field <i>Look over the fence</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oxeye Daisies ○ Black Poplar trees ○ Oak tree from the Queen ○ Heron 	The Black Poplar is a rare native tree. See the section on the Henfield Black Poplars on this website https://www.henfieldmuseum.org/arborea-local-submissions.html Oxeye Daisies and other native flowers provide nectar for pollinating insects. The young oak was grown from an acorn donated by the Queen from her Windsor home during the Golden Jubilee in 2002.
3	Swift Boxes at Stokes and House Martin Nests in RPS shop's eaves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Swift homes and maybe some swifts flying past ○ House Martins' mud nests 	Swifts are in decline and we need to help them with nesting sites so the numbers increase. The swift boxes give them somewhere to nest in Henfield. House Martins make mud nests in the eaves of RPS shop. House Martins have a white rump, the swifts are brown all over and often let out screams as they fly in groups down the High Street.
4	Borrer Bank Pollinator Area Butterfly Identification Help Bee Identification Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spiked Star of Bethlehem ○ Rosy Garlic ○ Yellow Rattle ○ Oxeye Daisy ○ Fruit Trees ○ Bees and Butterflies 	Bees, Butterflies and many other insects are in trouble... we need to plant more flowers that they can get nectar from so they have a food source. At the Borrer Bank we have tried to help by adding flowers to give nectar over several seasons: native daffodils in spring, apple and other fruit blossom, and a range of flowers which bees like for the summer. Walk carefully between the flowers and not near the road, to see up close. What can you spot?
5	The Lydds footpath, under the trees, up from Barrow Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Holly, Ivy ○ Honeysuckle ○ Brambles ○ Stinging Nettles (Take care!) 	Holly and Ivy are important for birds as they provide food in the cold winter and shelter for nesting. Honeysuckle provides nectar for pollinators and the brambles and stinging nettles are also very important for insects, providing food for the caterpillars. Dandelions are also a great source of nectar for many insects, and you might see lots here.
6	Near the School House on Henfield Common South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marsh Orchids ○ Common Spotted Orchids ○ Foxgloves ○ Ragged Robin 	Look over from the path in front of the School House. The Common South Side grass is not cut often so wildflowers flourish. Common Spotted Orchids and Southern Marsh Orchids are fairly rare . We need to preserve them, so please look at them from a distance. Also look for Foxgloves (brilliant for bees) and Ragged Robin . CAREFUL WHEN CROSSING THE ROAD.
7	The Henfield Oak, woodland and cricket pitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Veteran Oak tree ○ Buzzard ○ Rabbits ○ Mole hills ○ Pied Wagtails 	The Henfield Oak tree is much older than the rest of the trees in the wood. Newer trees have shaded out the lower branches, so some branches have dropped. Oaks support a huge amount of wildlife. The buzzard often flies over. Rabbits breed in burrows under the scrubby gorse and brambles and Moles make mounds in the paths. You can often spot pied wagtails waving their tails up and down on the short grass of the cricket field.
8	The Reed Bed Henfield Common	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rare reed-bed habitat ○ Reed warbler ○ Invasive willow and brambles 	The reed bed is an unusual habitat. It needs to be specially cared for and cut properly to preserve it and keep it wet. Some quite unusual birds can be seen or heard here sometimes – Can you hear the almost continual warbling of the Reed Warbler ?