CHURCHYARD/CHURCH GARDEN NATURE EXPLORATION



Church name & village/town:

	Go out into the churchyard/garden then answer these questions	Points	Score	Max score
1	Listen for a while. Can you see birds &/or hear birds singing? How many different types (species)? See if you can notice the calls/songs of different species of bird while you do the next two questions.	Count the species 1 point if 1-2 2 points if 3-5 5 points if over 5		5
2	Measure out one square metre of grassland/lawn. Try this twice , in an area of short & an area of longer grass if possible. How many different types of plants (species) do you see in each area? (No need to name all the plants, just notice the different leaf shapes.)	Count the species 1 point if 5-10 3 points if 11-15 5 points if over 15		10
3	How many different types of invertebrates can you see in your square meter? Do this twice , once in short & once in longer grass. (You'll need to look very closely - but no need to be an expert, just count beetle, fly, spider, ant, bee etc.)	Count the types 1 point if 3-4 3 points if 5-7 5 points if over 8		10
4	How many trees does the churchyard/garden have? Are any old enough to have holes in them that wildlife might use?	Count the trees 1 point if 1-2 2 points if 3-5 5 points if over 5 Plus 2 extra points if there are any old trees		7
5	Are there areas of longer grass with wildflowers?	5 points if so		5
6	Can you find a compost heap/bin? Only if not, is there somewhere one might go, a little hidden away?	5 points for composting 2 points for a possible location		5
7	Are there any log or leaf piles wildlife might hide in. Don't disturb them!	5 points if so		5

8	Are there any bird nesting boxes, bat boxes, dormouse boxes, bug hotels or hedgehog homes? No need to say which they are.	5 points if so	 5 🚳
9	Are there any bird feeders?	5 points if so	 5
10	Is there a pond or wetland area?	5 points if so	 5
11	Are there old gravestones with different mosses & lichens on them?	5 points if so	 5
12	Does your churchyard/garden have a stone wall around it or a fence, can you see ferns, mosses &/or lichens on it? (Stone walls provide nooks & crevices for wildlife so can be more valuable than fences or neat brick walls.) Does the fence or wall have gaps under it that a hedgehog could use?	2 point for a stone wall 4 points if wall or fence has ferns, mosses or lichens. Extra 2 points for a hedgehog gap.	
13	Is there a notice board about the churchyard/garden for visitors explaining about wildlife or why some areas are mown less often? (Don't count a notice board if not about wildlife.)	5 points if so	 5
14	Do swifts nest in the church building? You could ask a churchwarden if they know.	5 points if so	 5
15	Do bats use the church building? You might find little droppings on windowsills or the ground. You could also you ask a churchwarden if they know.	5 points if so	 5
16	Is there a seat for people to sit on in the churchyard/garden?	5 points if so	 5
17	Is there a vegetable plot or are there any fruit trees?	5 points if so	 5 🖔
	Please take a photo of your survey form and email it to environment@oxford.anglican.org . Thank you!	TOTAL	 Max: 100