

Shepton Beauchamp Cowleaze Meadow Project

How do I find out what is in the Cowleaze Meadow site?

Look at what is there--- you may need to be quiet, and tread carefully!

Sometimes a magnifying glass can help, especially for plants. Binoculars can be useful for birds.

What is it? Ask someone who knows, and will help to identify it.

Look at books, and compare what you have found with pictures.

Use the internet - for plants www.botanicalkeys.co.uk is a good place to start.

www.somerset-butterflies.org.uk has pictures of local species.

Please remember that the animals and plants that you find in the countryside do live there, and would like to stay there! **DO NOT** take them home with you--- they may die away from their natural home, or their young ones may die because they cannot get their own food.

Remember if you are using a book to help find out the name, take the book to the creature, not the other way around.

If you have a digital camera, take a picture, and look up details when you get home. Keep a notebook with your observations, and if you have missed some vital detail, go back and have another look.

Some animals and plants are protected by law, **and must not be taken away**. Others may have only a few individuals, and you would harm the group by removing only one. If there are lots of plants, it is generally alright to collect seeds, but **NEVER** dig up plants.

If you are really keen, why not join the local Wildlife Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, or other environmental group.

If you would like some more information contact a committee member, or ring 01460 240 363.