



Wild Classrooms

If you're looking for extra things to do this lockdown, why not join Stroud Valleys Project's 'Seeable 60' wildlife spotting challenge? Its aim is to spot and photograph or draw sixty, familiar, often overlooked, plants and animals that can be seen locally over the course of the year (for more information see www.wildclassrooms.org). There are 5 different things to spot each month – a bird, a butterfly/moth, a minibeast, a plant and a tree.

This week's bird to spot is the blue tit. Unlike birds such as the flamingo, which get their feather colour from a pigment in their food, blue feathers are all to do with their structure. Tiny air pockets inside 'blue' feathers scatter light which makes them look blue. This is why if you're ever lucky enough to find a blue feather that they seem to change colour when you change their angle to the light.

If/when you spot one, you can record it on the Wild Classrooms website, send any photos to Tamsin, the Wild Classrooms Project officer (tamsin@stroudvalleysproject.org) or parents can tag us on Instagram #svpwildclassrooms. Watch out here for next week's plant/animal to spot...

Here's my photo of a blue tit on the bird feeder in my garden. If you feed the birds, feeders make great places to spot them.

