

8th-14th August 2022



## National Allotments Week

A National Allotment Society initiative

The **National Allotments Week** theme for 2022 is Bugs, Bees and Broccoli.

We want you to head out into any green space and see what creepy crawlies you can find.

Email a picture of your finished worksheet with your name and address to [natsoc@nsalg.org.uk](mailto:natsoc@nsalg.org.uk) by 14th August for a chance to win a prize!

*Find Ts&Cs on the website.*



### Ladybird

spotted?



There are 46 different species of ladybird in the UK, the most common is the Seven-spot ladybird.

#### Gardeners' friends

Most ladybirds eat aphids (like greenfly) and other bugs which can be pests on garden plants and farmer's crops – so ladybirds are the gardener's friends. The Seven-spot ladybird can eat 5000 aphids during its year long lifespan!



### Woodlouse

spotted?



Woodlice are crustaceans, they are related to crabs and lobsters.

Our largest woodlouse is the Sea slater – this is a coastal bug which can grow up to 3cm long. Look for Sea slaters at the high tide mark on rocks and in the strandline.

#### Got the recycling bug?

Woodlice are helpful recycling bugs – they eat dead plant and animal material and keep the place tidy!



### Bumblebee

spotted?



Bumblebees are important pollinators of crops such as raspberries, peas and tomatoes. However our bumblebees are in trouble as a result of intensive farming, development, and the loss of areas of wildflowers in our countryside.

You can help bumblebees in your garden by planting lots of flowers in your garden (native wildflowers are best), and leaving areas to go wild.





## Hoverfly

**spotted?**



Hoverflies have black and yellow stripes to look like bees and wasps – this disguise protects them from birds and other predators.

### Helpful hovers

Adult hoverflies help to pollinate our crops and wildflowers, whilst hoverfly larvae eat aphids (like greenfly) and other garden pests.



## Snail

**spotted?**



Snails and slugs belong to a group of animals called gastropods – meaning “belly foot”!

Most snails feed on dead and rotting plants, fungi, algae and lichens, although, as gardeners know, a small minority also eat healthy plants.

Snails are food to many other animals, especially birds.



## Spider

**spotted?**



Most of our spiders spin webs, however wolf spiders do not - they hunt and chase their prey on the ground.

Female wolf spiders are excellent mothers; they carry their eggs around in a silk sac which is attached to their abdomen. When the eggs hatch the young are carried on their mother's back for a few days until they are large enough to fend for themselves.

**Buglife- The Invertebrate Conservation Trust** are committed to saving Britain's rarest little animals, everything from bees to beetles, and spiders to snails  
Find out more: [www.buglife.org.uk](http://www.buglife.org.uk)

**The National Allotment Society** is the leading national organisation upholding the interests and rights of the allotment community across the UK. We work with government at national and local levels, other organisations and landlords to provide, promote and preserve allotments for all. Find out more: [www.nsalg.org.uk](http://www.nsalg.org.uk)