



Calderglen Country Park

Education Pack

Calderglen Country Park Countryside Ranger Service
Self led trails and activities



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If you need this information in another language or format,
please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 01355 276880

Email: louisa.maddison@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



South Lanarkshire Council Ranger Service Countryside
Calderglen Country Park Education Pack



Introduction to Calderglen

Calderglen Country Park lies along the eastern edge of East Kilbride, set in 350 acres of wooded river gorge. It comprises lands of the former Calderwood and Torrance estates. Designated as a Country Park in 1979, it was officially opened in September 1982. The park attracts ½ million visitors each year and on a hot sunny day there can be 15,000 visitors.

The Country Park extends some 5km along the banks of the Rotten Calder from Flatt Bridge (on the A726 Strathaven Road) north to the Hamilton Expressway (A725). Beyond the southern boundary of the Country Park, the path network continues to Langlands Moss Local Nature Reserve.

The main visitor attractions are centred around the Conservatory, and include a gift shop, gardens, children's zoo, café, toddlers play area, and adventure play area.

The various nature trails also start from this point.

Nature Trails

Various trails cover the length of Calderglen Country Park. For the most the paths follow the route of the Rotten Calder through wooded river gorge.



Trail maps are available from the Conservatory and the Ranger Station, or online by clicking on 'Walk in the Park' at http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/SLLC/info/113/calderglen_country_park



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Introduction to Calderglen

Conservatory, Zoo and Gardens

The Conservatory houses a collection of exotic plants and animals from around the world. There are insectivorous pitcher plants and venus fly traps, cacti and succulents, orchids, banana trees, pineapple and coffee plants, aloe vera and rubber plants.

The interactive tree is a fun way of learning about life in a tropical rainforest. Other parts of the conservatory display how plants are adapted to cope with heat and drought.

Animals within the conservatory include snakes, tropical fish, Goeldi's monkeys, stick insects and tortoises.

Outside in the zoo and gardens are plants and animals more tolerant of the Scottish climate. Meerkats, wallabies and coatimundis live alongside guinea pigs, finches and prairie dogs.

Charges

There is a nominal charge per adult (for a day ticket) entering the conservatory, zoo and gardens. Children under 16 are free, and all children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Annual tickets are available.

Play areas

The adventure play area is designed to be accessed by all. The play area is secured by wooden fencing and dog-proof grating, with a single entrance and exit. There are various textures – sand, decking, woodchip and metal for sensory experience.

There is also a toddler's play area off the main car park.



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Building

Opening hours

Shop, Conservatory and Zoo 10am-5pm (last entry 4.30pm)

Cafe 10.30am – 6pm

Contact Information

South Lanarkshire Council Countryside Ranger Service
The Ranger Station
Calderglen Country Park
Strathaven Road
East Kilbride G75 0QZ
Phone: 01355 236644 (switchboard, ask for the Countryside Ranger Service)
Fax: 01355 247618
Email: CAG@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

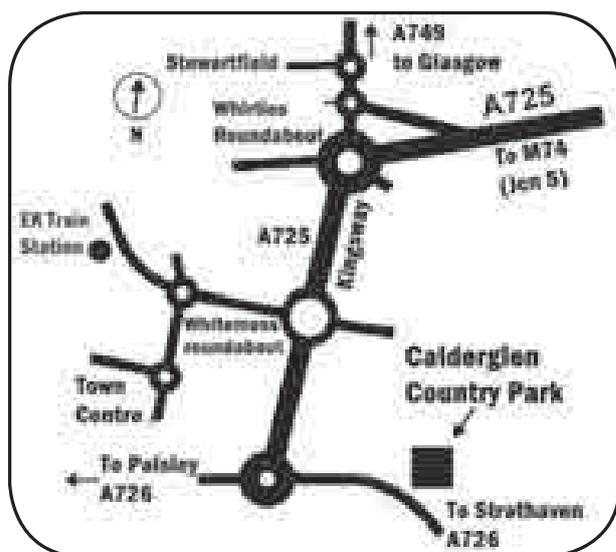
How to get here

Calderglen Country Park lies on the south east edge of East Kilbride.

By road: follow signs for the A726 Strathaven Road and the brown tourist signs for Calderglen. For 'satnav' directions, our postcode is G75 0QZ.

By train: the nearest train station is East Kilbride, just over 2 miles from Calderglen Country Park. Complete your journey by bus or taxi.

By bus: First Bus no. 20 stops closest to the park, with a further ½ mile walk to reach the facilities.



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Calderglen Junior detective

1. What can you find in B2?

--

2. Is the line in C3 a river or a path?

--

3. Name 2 animals you could find in C4...

4. How many slides are there in D4?

--

5. Find the 'Dovecot' in D3. Do you think horses or birds were kept there?

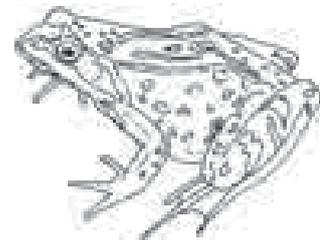
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6. What could live under the logs in E1?

--

7. Go to D1. Can you find out when the café was built?
Hint: above the door

--



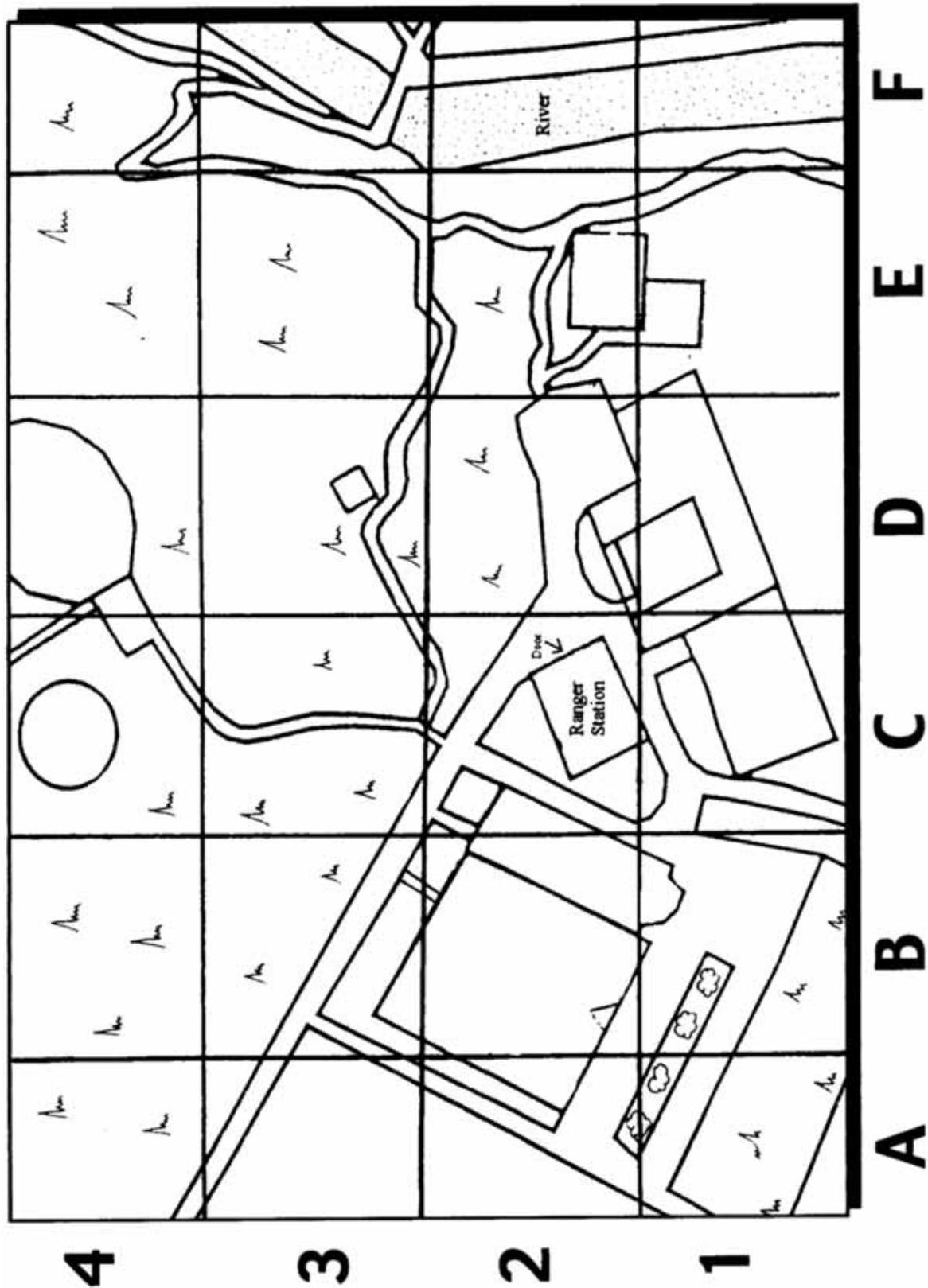
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Calderglen Country Park
Strathaven Road
East Kilbride G75 0QZ
Phone: 01355 236 644



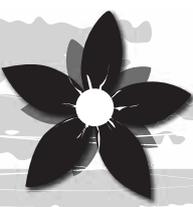
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Calderglen Junior detective map



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Calderglen Challenge Hike

1. Wildlife Garden Pond

Frogs, toads and newts breed in ponds like this and then return to land. What group of animals do they belong to?

mammals reptiles amphibians

2. Nesting boxes in trees

Look up at the tree - what animals have these boxes been put up for?

bird bat both!

3. At the perch seats under the trees along the South Trail.

The trees round here lose their leaves in winter. What name do we give to this type of tree?

4. Open Grassland

There are often mounds of earth on the grass. What creature makes these mounds?

5. Torrance Linn

There used to be a sawmill here. Why would you have a mill near a river?

6. Woodland on Tor Trail

Many insects and other minibeasts live in woods. These are eaten by other animals and are an important part of food chains. Rearrange the following into a food chain:

Caterpillar Sparrowhawk
Blue tit Nettle

7. Highland cattle field

You may see cattle in this field at certain times of the year. They graze on grass and other plants. What do we call animals that only eat plants?

carnivores herbivores omnivores

8. Tree ID

This line of trees was planted many years ago. Do you know what kind of tree most of them are?

B _ _ _ _ tree (think of holidays with sand!)

9. The Fire Pond

In the past when Torrance House was a large estate there was no Fire Brigade. What do you think this pond was used for?

10. Doocot

Here are the remains of an old doocot, built around 200 years ago. What kind of animals do you think were kept in here?

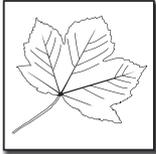
pigs pigeons dogs



Calderglen

The Woodland Trail

A. As you make your way along the trail try and find the following leaves:



Sycamore



Beech



Ash

B. At Horseshoe Falls bridge, try to complete the drawing of the leaves.



Holly



Oak



Rhododendron

C. Stop at the bench. Grey squirrels can often be seen at Calderglen: can you name three other mammals that live in the woods?

D. At the trail post take a closer look at the bark of a tree. Can you see any of the following?

Ferns, moss, lichens or other plants	
Insects	
Slugs or snails	
Fungi	

E. Along the trail you may hear and see many birds that live in and around woodlands and rivers. Stand on the boardwalk and listen for birds – how many can you hear? Can you name any birds that might live here?

--

F. If you stand on the South Bridge you can see many trees, unravel the letters to reveal three types of tree.

CEEBH	
CHWY LME	
SHA	

G. Along the trails you will see some fallen trees, how do you think you can tell the age of a tree?

--

H. Stop at the next bench. Can you think what part of a tree grows underground, and what do you think they are used for?

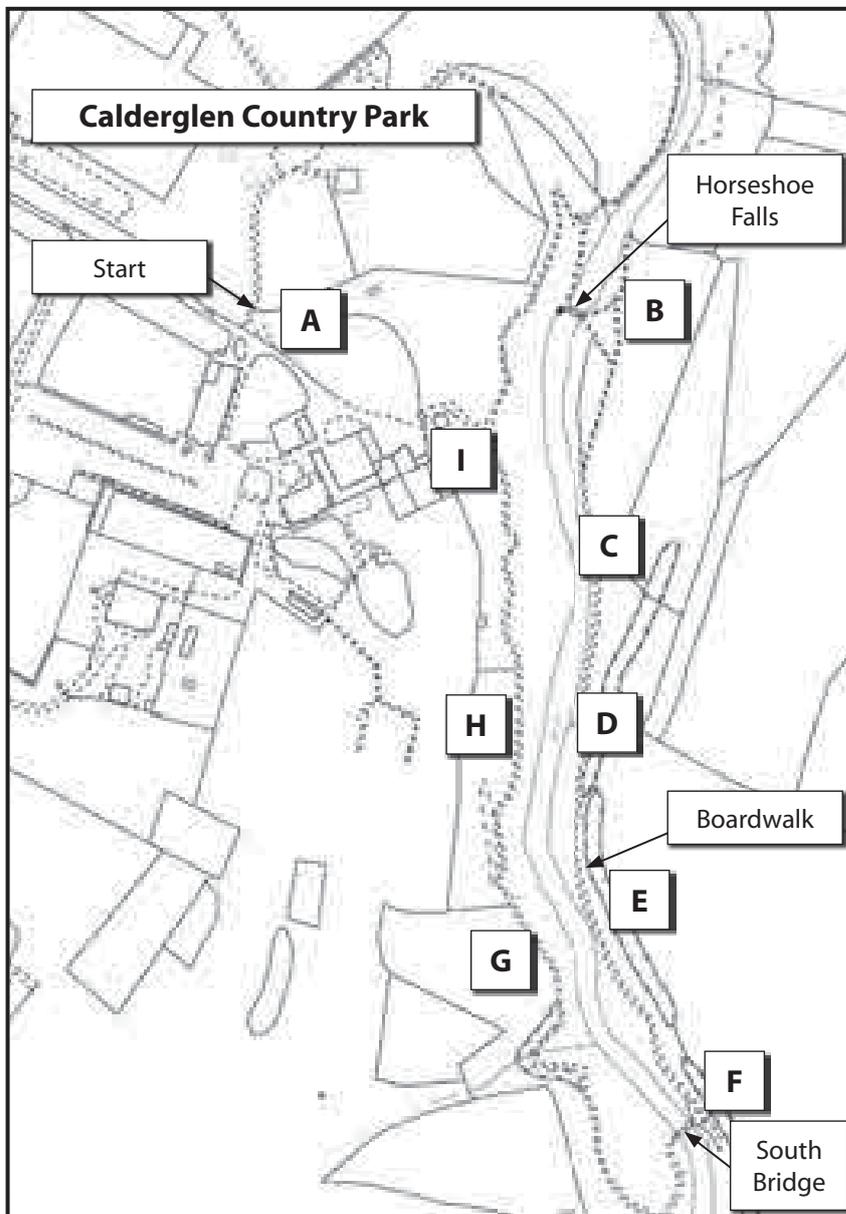
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I. Back at the last signpost, can you complete the woodland word search?

F	O	X	A	D	T	B	Owl Tree Fox Leaf Badger Robin Ferns
E	E	R	U	J	A	L	
R	G	S	L	D	P	E	
N	C	W	G	Q	L	A	
S	O	E	E	R	T	F	
M	R	O	B	I	N	U	



Calderglen Woodland Trail Map



The woodland at Calderglen Country Park follows the banks of the Rotten Calder Water. The woodland along the trail includes many types of broadleaved trees.

The self-guided trail follows the blue markers for the South Trail, starting at the sign for the nature trails.

The stops are a variety of items along the trail. A is the sign for the Nature Trails. Please make sure that you turn to the left, down towards Point B at Horseshoe Falls Bridge.

Please follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and be responsible while in the countryside.

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Nature's Palette



Print me on card and make a nature picture by finding natural (non-living!) items to stick on your card. You could look for different colours, shades or textures.



Spring Detective

Look for clues to find out if spring has arrived

		yes	no	
✿	Was it light when you got up this morning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	I got up after 9am	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Are you wearing a hat, scarf and gloves?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Have you heard lots of birds singing today?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Have you seen any flowers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	✿ daffodils	<input type="checkbox"/>	✿ dogs mercury	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✿ snowdrops	<input type="checkbox"/>	✿ coltsfoot	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✿ crocus	<input type="checkbox"/>	✿ lesser celandine	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✿ others	<input style="width: 100%; height: 20px;" type="text"/>		
	✿ Have you found any catkins on the trees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Have a close look at an old tree ... Can you find any minibeasts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Have you found any frogspawn?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Did you see any nests?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
✿	Do you think that Spring is here	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	

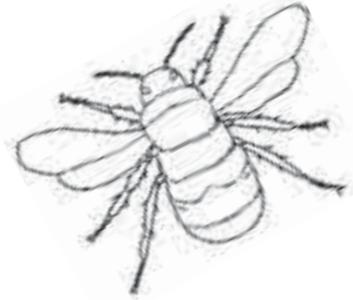


Springtime

Scavenger Hunt

Can you find

1. Something **soft**?



2. Something a **bird** might use to make a **nest**?

3. A **white** thing?



4. Something **hard**?

5. Something **tickly**?

6. A **nibbled leaf**?

7. Anything that is **green**?



Autumn

Detective



Look for clues to find out if autumn has arrived

	yes	no	
Was it light when you got up this morning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I got up after 9am	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you wearing a hat, scarf and gloves?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you seen any berries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there leaves on the ground today?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
What colour are the leaves?			
red	<input type="checkbox"/>	orange	<input type="checkbox"/>
yellow	<input type="checkbox"/>	brown	<input type="checkbox"/>
others	<input type="text"/>		
Can you see any nuts or seeds from trees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can you see any minibeasts flying around?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Have you heard any birds singing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can you see any mushrooms?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you think autumn is here?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	



Autumn

Scavenger Hunt

Can you find

1. Something that has been *nibbled*?



2. A *leaf* with more than *one colour*?

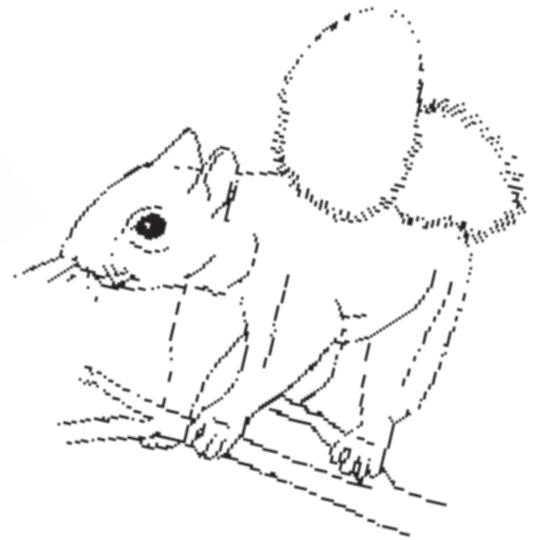


3. Anything that is still *green*?

4. A *pine cone*?



5. Something *prickly*?



6. Something an *animal* could use to keep *warm*?

7. A *leaf* that is all *one colour*?



Scavenger Hunt



Can you find

1. **Two** different **coloured** things?



2. Something **soft**?



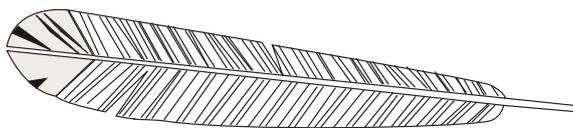
3. Something **curly**?

4. Something **tickly**?

5. Something **hard**?



6. Something **brightly coloured**?



People at Calderglen

Lots of people work in the park, here are just a few of them:

Animal Keepers – look after all the zoo animals

Q1. What is your favourite animal in the zoo? ... do a quick drawing of it

--

Gardeners – look after all the plants in the conservatory and gardens

Q2. Look for your favourite tropical plant in the conservatory . . . Does it have a name?

--

Receptionists – work in the shop and give information about the park

Q3. Name one thing you could get from reception:

--

Rangers – look after the wild places and animals, and help people enjoy the outdoors

Q4. Name a wild animal that lives in Calderglen

--



Calderglen

Mini Quiz

Fire pond

1. Name 3 different animals that might live here.

2. There is lots of frogspawn here in Spring – what does it turn into?

--

Calderglen Woodlands

3. Which bird lives in trees and drums its beak against them?

--

4. Name a minibeast that would eat tree leaves.

--

Courtyard

5. What is the date above the café door?
This is when it was built.

--

6. The buildings here were originally used as a dairy – what happened here?

--

7. What kind of tree is growing at the entrance to the Courtyard?

--

Zoo and Gardens

8. What is the scientific name for meerkat?

--

9. What is your favourite animal in the zoo?

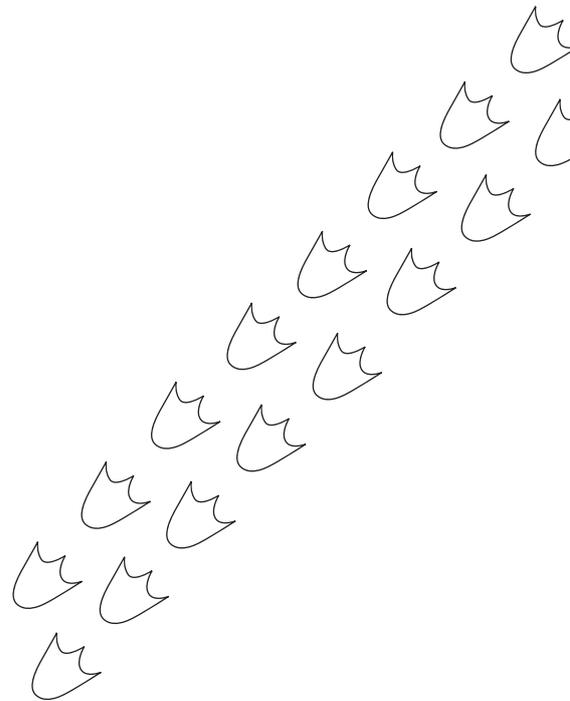
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Rotten Calder River

10. Name 2 birds you might find around the river

11. How do you think Horseshoe Falls got its name?

--



Check sheet

Minibeasts



Name

Minibeast	Tick	Where found	How does it move?	What does it eat?	What does it look like?
Worm					
Slug					
Snail					
Slug and snail eggs					
Beetle					
Spider					
Woodlouse					
Centipede					
Millipede					

If you found any other minibeasts, enter them in the table below.



Under logs and rocks

Minibeasts



Earthworm



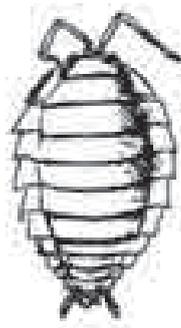
Grubs



Beetle



Millipede



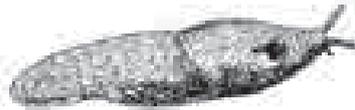
Woodlouse



Centipede



Snail



Slug

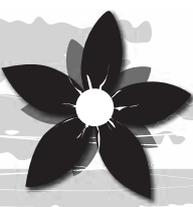


Earwig

Not to scale



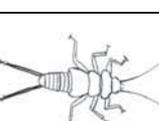
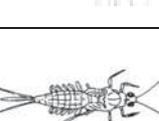
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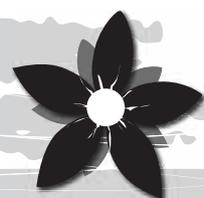


River

Minibeasts



		Found?
	<p>Flatworm Very flat, glides over stones. Usually black. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Leech Sucker at each end. Moves by stretching. Reddish brown in colour. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Water snail Shell can be spiral (as shown) or a flat coil. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Water beetle Many different kinds and sizes. Usually fast swimmers. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Caddis fly larva Either in a case of stones or leaves, or free swimming. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Nematode worm Very thin, thread-like, moves in a characteristic 'S' shape. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Stonefly nymph Two long tails. Crawls slowly. Free flying as adults. Only found in unpolluted water. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Damselfly nymph Green or brown. 3 flat tails. Free flying as adult. Likes clean water. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Swimming mayfly nymph Fast swimmer, 3 long thin tails. Likes clean water. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Flattened mayfly nymph Crawls instead of swimming. 3 long thin tails. Very flat, big head. Likes clean water. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Water louse Grey-brown, looks like its woodlouse cousin. Max size _____</p>	
	<p>Freshwater shrimp Swims on its side. Peachy pink to grey colour. Max size _____</p>	



Calderglen

Activity map

Activity map for environmental education

- 1: Area for water studies**
- 2: Minibeast studies (wildlife garden)**
- 3: Woodland/minibeast studies**
- 4: Grassland/minibeast studies**
- 5: Grassland studies**

Please contact the Countryside Ranger Service at Calderglen Country Park if you require assistance with the locations on the map.

Ensure to fill out relevant risk assessments for your activities, and to dress for the weather and terrain.

Remember to wash your hands after working outdoors.

Toilets are available at Reception (in the conservatory) from 10am – 5pm daily.

If you are arriving by bus please inform Reception so that parking space can be reserved – Phone: 01355 236 644

Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Please enjoy Scotland's outdoors in the Country Park responsibly. There are exciting places to explore but be aware of potential dangers: steep drops at path edges, rivers in spate following heavy rain, and even deep pools when water levels are low. Act responsibly by remaining on the trails and avoiding dangerous situations that might otherwise spoil your enjoyment.



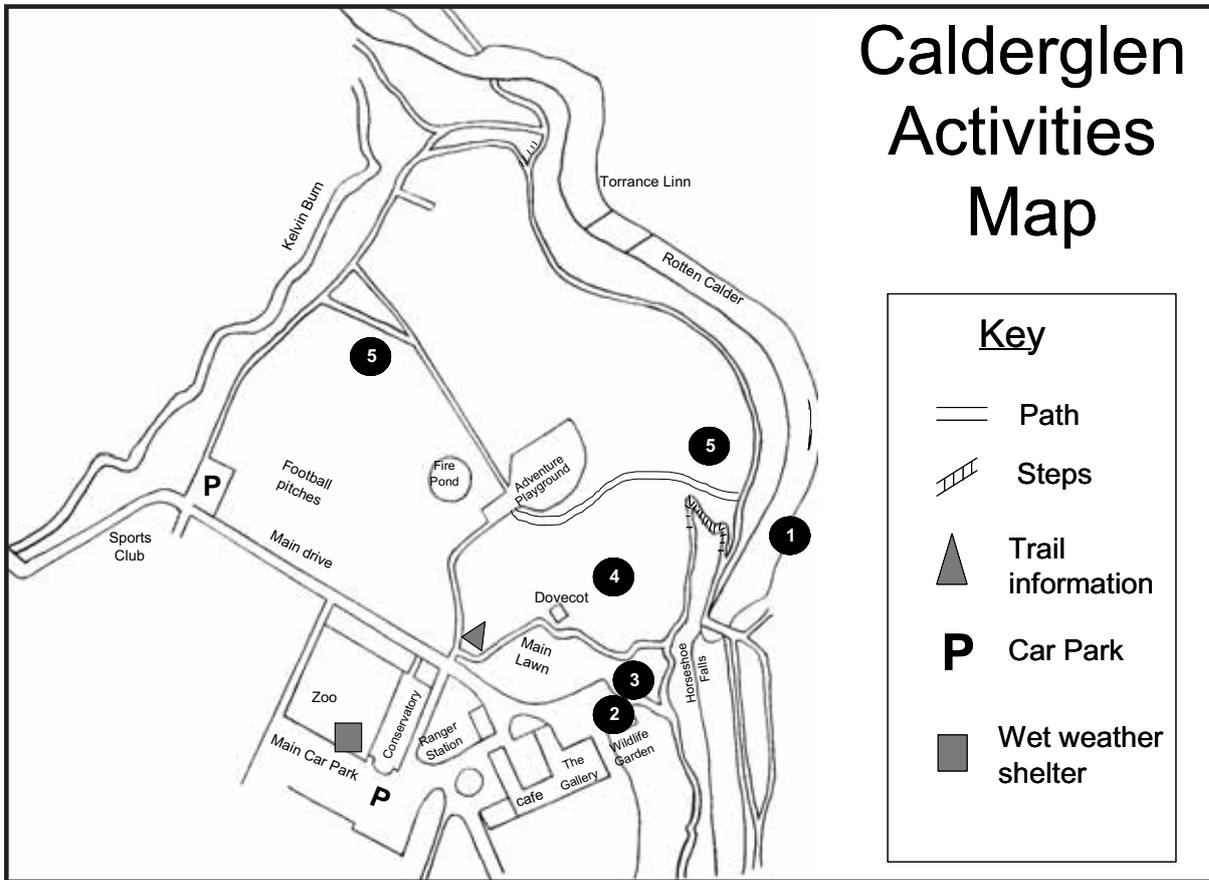
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Calderglen

Activities map

Calderglen Activities Map



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Calderglen Trail and Quiz Answers

Junior Detective

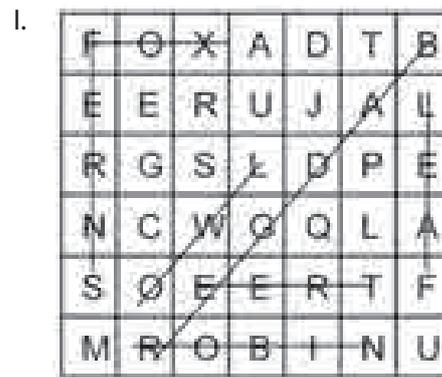
1. The Conservatory and/or Zoo
2. Path
3. Pond animals e.g. duck, frog, fish, heron etc
4. Three
5. Birds such as pigeons
6. Minibeasts e.g. millipedes, woodlice, beetles
7. 1774

Challenge Hike

1. Amphibians
2. Both
3. Deciduous
4. Molehills
5. To generate power from the water flow
6. Nettle - Caterpillar - Blue tit - Sparrowhawk
7. Herbivores
8. Beech tree
9. A water source in case of fire in the house
10. Pigeons

Woodland Trail

- C. Bat, badger, hedgehog, fox, mouse, deer, mole, weasel etc.
- E. Wood pigeon, crow, blackbird, blue tit, robin, duck, heron, kingfisher etc.
- F. Beech, wych elm, ash
- G. You can age a tree by counting the rings in a cross-section of the trunk. One ring = 1 year.
- H. Roots grow underground. They help the tree stand stably and safely in high winds. They also transport water and minerals from the soil to the tree.



Mini-quiz

1. Duck, frog/tadpole, heron, fish, pondskater
2. Tadpoles and then frogs
3. Woodpecker
4. Caterpillar
5. 1774
6. Cows were milked
7. Conker or horse chestnut
8. Suricata suricatta
9. What is your favourite zoo animal?
10. Heron, duck, dipper, kingfisher, grey wagtail
11. The shape of the falls looks like a horseshoe

