

Bestwood Spring Creature Feature



Chiffchaff

This warbler migrates to Africa in the winter then returns to Britain in the spring to breed. Listen out for their distinctive 'chiff-chaff' song coming from the tops of trees. They often flick their tails when sat on branches.



Willow Warbler

A warbler similar in appearance to the chiffchaff, but has a very different song. They also migrate to Britain from Africa in the spring to breed. Listen out for the song that sounds like a soft whistle descending in pitch.



Birds nest building

At this time of year all birds will be breeding. Look out for birds picking up or flying with nesting material. Most birds will use sticks and twigs, some birds, like the long-tailed tit and wren, will use moss to build their nest.



Bluebells

This plant is commonly associated with spring, its blue flowers form carpets on the woodland floor. It is common throughout Britain, in particular areas of ancient woodland.



Young birds

After young birds have fledged their nest they will often stick close by, often in small groups, so their parents can continue to feed them until they can fend for themselves.



Brimstone

Often the first butterflies to be seen in spring as the adults that hibernate will awaken on a sunny day, sometimes as early as January. Look out for the bright yellow males, the females are paler in colour.



Common lizard

Common lizards hibernate in the winter. On warm spring mornings they can be seen basking in the sun on the small pockets of heathland found on the park. They also breed in the spring.