




Wild Space Adventures

Winskill Stones



Hi I'm Daisy, and these are my friends Ash and Snowdrop. We love to get out and explore nature. Come with us to discover this wild space together and see what we can find.

For this Wild Space Adventure you will need:

-  **A keen eye**
-  **An adult to talk to about what you find**
-  **A sense of adventure**

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4
Turn the page for activities

KEY

-  Limestone pavement
-  Damaged limestone pavement
-  Lime kiln
-  Cliffs
-  Ash tree
-  Car park
-  Road (take care)
-  Public footpaths
-  Millennium Trust signal post

Adventurers take note

For your Wild Space Collection you need to collect something at each activity – only take a leaf from a plant or pick a flower if there are so many around that you can't count them all. Don't collect live creatures or pull plants up from the roots.

A note for grown-ups

Make sure you are happy with the activities before you go ahead. Be aware the area is full of cliffs and deep crevices and livestock may be grazing. Take care by the road. Orchids are rare so don't pick them even if there are lots around. Orchids are upright plants with small flowers growing around the stem.



1 Time travel by the roadside

Look at the cliffs by the layby. Can you see the thick layer of limestone rock underneath the grass and soil?



This rock was made millions of years ago from the skeletons of tiny sea creatures when this area was under water – 4,000 years ago, it was covered in trees which were chopped down so people could farm. Without the trees, the soil washed away, leaving the cliffs and patches of bare rock you see around you.

Look for the low boulders at the far end of the car park.

Can you clamber along them just a little way off the ground?

Ask an adult to help you, then cross the road carefully for activity 2.

2 Stepping stones

The strange-looking rocks around you are called limestone pavement because they look like flagstones. Rainwater has worn away at tiny cracks in the rock, making them wider.



Without stepping on any cracks, can you travel from one side of this patch of limestone pavement to the other? Count your steps. Hold someone's hand if you need to.



- Are some cracks wider than others?
- Are they random or in a pattern?
- Look at the damaged pavement beyond the slope to your north. People used to dig it up for rockeries. What differences can you spot between the two areas?

Watch your step

Rocks can be slippery and some cracks are deep

3 Rock pooling

Natural worlds or 'ecosystems' can be hidden from sight.

The flat rock slabs in the pavement are called clints and deep cracks between them are grykes.

Hart's-tongue



Maidenhair spleenwort



Herb-Robert



Lie on your tummy, look into a gryke and see if you can find any of the plants (right)

These are woodland plants even though there aren't many trees here.

- Why do you think these plants are here?
- Imagine a wood – what does it feel and look like? How are grykes similar to woods?

4 Treasures from under the sea

Go back to the road and carefully follow the bank round to your right to find the Millennium Trust signal post.



How many fossils can you find from when this area was under the sea?

Are they animals or plants?

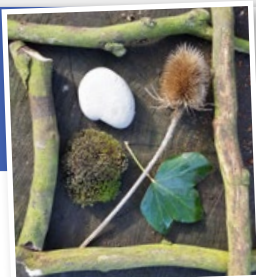
Can you spot different types of plants/animals?



Look around you

- How different would this area have looked under water?
- Later, when it became woodland, how would it have looked?
- Imagine what it might look like in another 1,000 years.

5 Share your Wild Space Collection



Make a frame from sticks, stones, grass or whatever else you can find around you. Place your finds inside the frame. These things tell the story of your adventure here. Take a photograph of your collection and share it with other people on Twitter and Facebook #plantlife #wildspaceadventures #wildspacecollection