

# Happy Easter!



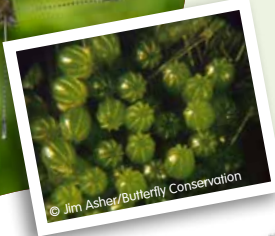
## Forest minibeasts

Spring is a time when lots of forest creatures lay their eggs.

activity  
sheet



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The **small tortoiseshell butterfly** lays up to 80 green eggs on the underside of nettle leaves. Caterpillars feed on nettles and butterflies hibernate in hollow trees.

Can  
YOU  
Find?

Look around your forest for places that butterflies would like to live.

Can you find...

- a hollow tree?
- a shady area under the trees?
- a sunny spot at the edge of a path?
- nettles and dandelions?

Most **spiders** lay hundreds of eggs in silken sacs.

Many different **spiders** are found in forests – in trees, under logs and rocks, in grassy areas.

Can  
YOU  
Find?

Can you find...

- a spider in your forest?
- more than one sort of spider?



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**Ladybirds** lay batches of up to 40 yellow or orange eggs.

**Ladybirds** hibernate through the winter in sheltered places. They may sleep under tree bark or in leaf litter.

Can  
YOU  
Find?

Can you find...

- a ladybird in your forest?
- a place with a good layer of leaf litter on the ground?

Why don't you draw a picture of some minibeasts and their eggs and share it with us on facebook?



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## Forest creatures

Spring is a time when lots of forest creatures lay their eggs.



The **grass snake** lays up to 40 leathery white eggs, which measure 23-30mm.

The **grass snake** likes habitats with ponds, lakes and streams, with plenty of sunshine and plenty of shelter.

**Can You Find?**

Does your forest provide a habitat for a grass snake?

**Can you find...**

- sunny places?
- watery places?
- sheltered places?

The **green woodpecker** lays 4-6 white eggs in a hole in a tree.

**Green woodpeckers** like open deciduous woodland, and nest in mature (old) trees, especially oak and birch.

**Can You Find?**

**Can you find...**

- a birch tree?
- do you think they are mature enough to provide a nesting place for a woodpecker?



The **frog** lays thousands of black eggs in a large clump of jelly.

**Frogs** are found near ponds and lakes, especially in places where there are plenty of insects living nearby.

**Can You Find?**

**Can you find...**

- a pond or slow flowing river in your forest? Then see if you can see a frog or toad, or their eggs (spawn) or tadpoles.

Why don't you draw a picture of a forest creature and share it with us on facebook?



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## Whose eggs?

Draw a line to link each creature to its eggs?



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