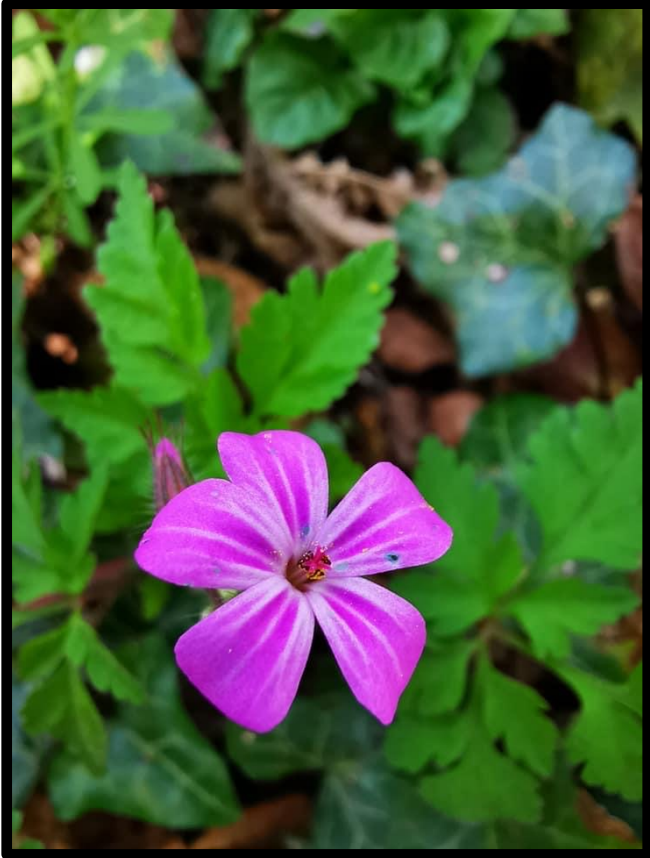
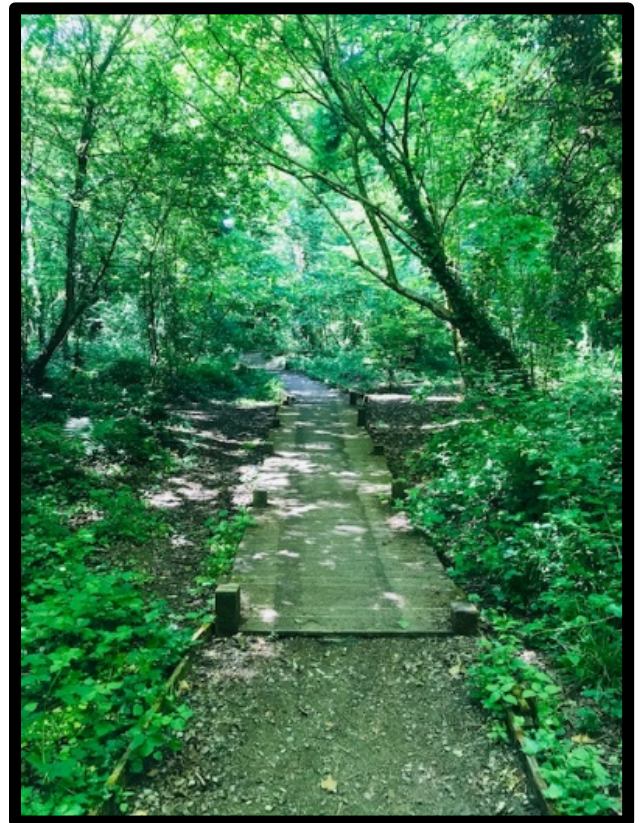


Sustainability in the Early Years

EAEE6005



An Exploration of Tremains Woods

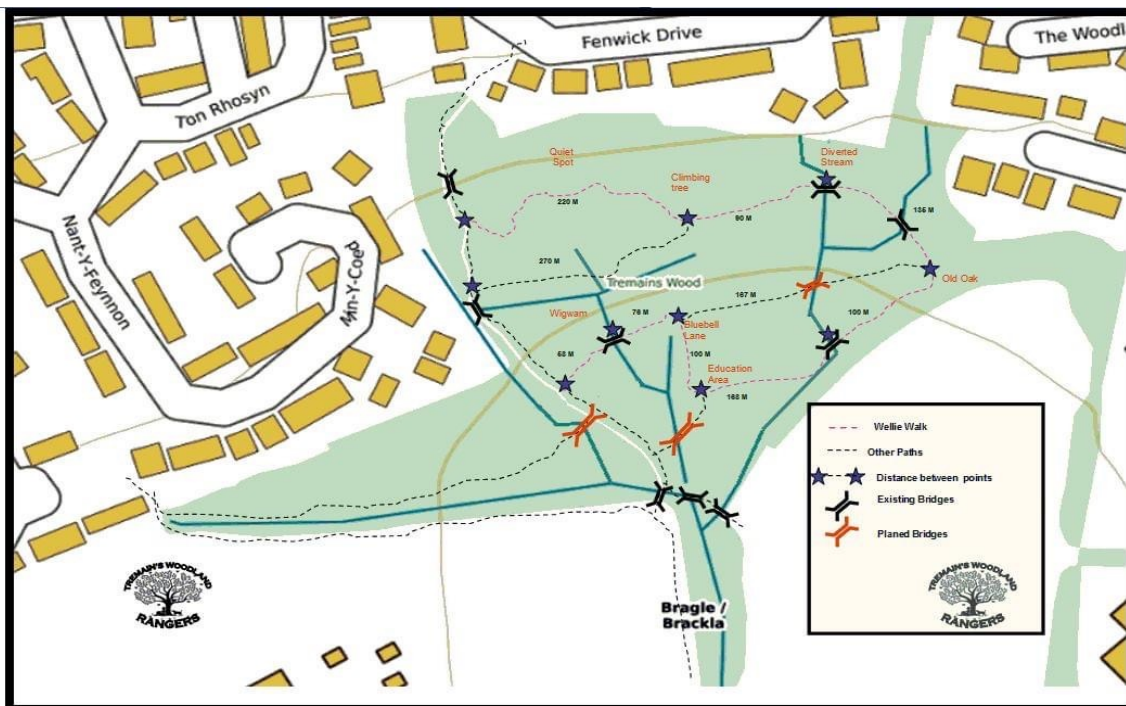


John Muir Award
by Mollie Sadler
1815455

Name: Tremains Wood, Bridgend

Place Type: Woodland or Forest

Location: Grid Ref: SS 9216.8014 – X/Y co-ordinates: 292165, 180141 – Lat/Long: 51.50989914, -3.55527197



Tremains woodland is set in the centre of a large housing estate in Bridgend. This map marks out the different paths you can take including bridges that cross the river and shows where future bridges planned to be built to enhance the area. The woodland includes an educational area that can be used by the local school.

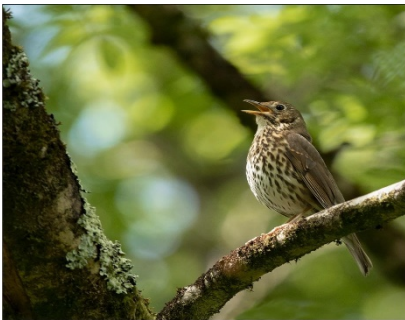
Tremains Woodland Rangers wellie walk



There is a sign posted wellie walk around the woods that was created by the Tremains Woodland Rangers. This takes you around the whole woodland across a range of bridges. The Tremains Woodland Rangers have a Facebook page where they post information for people visiting the woodland, events, and different activities for children to complete while visiting the woods such as bird and plant hunts.

Birds

Many birds have been spotted in the woodland and the sounds that can be heard while you walk through are beautiful. Here are some of the birds spotted by me and other members of the community who visit Tremains woodland. I also recorded a part of my walk around the woodland to listen to all the different birds that could be heard. I will upload this voice clip separately.





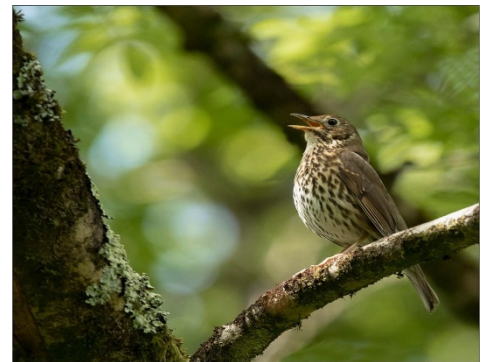
Did you know?

The Wren is the most common breeding bird in the UK.

The wren can be found in any habitat where there are insects to eat and bushes or rocks for them to build.

Did you know?

The Mistle Thrush' diet consists mostly of invertebrates and berries and they can be territorial and will fiercely defend their food sources. They are one of the earliest breeders of the year and will lay eggs as early as February



Did you know?

The Treecreeper is usually active during the day. They will creep up trees, exploring the bark and using their long sharp beaks to pick out insects. They will usually go up trees, not down and when they reach the top they will fly to the bottom of the next tree.

Whilst exploring the woodland I was surprised by how many different species of birds I was able to spot and the research I completed to find out what types of birds I had found and finding out facts about the different birds inspired me to enhance my garden and make it bird friendly so I could see what other birds I could spot within my community.

Following guidance from the RSPB (no date) I created a bird feeder to put in my garden. I chose to make this bird feeder as its created completely from recycled materials and it also comes with step by step instructions which can be used within a classroom for children to make their own bird feeder. I thoroughly enjoyed making this, and look forward to sharing it with the teachers, children, and parents in my school with the hope to inspire others.

The steps to make a recycled bird feeder:

What you will need:

- Kitchen roll tube
- Wire or string
 - Bird seed
 - Twigs
- Scissors
- Lard

Step by Step Guide:

Step 1: Cut a hole in each corner of bottom of the kitchen roll tube and push through the twigs
Step 2: Push a small hole in either side of the top of the kitchen roll tube and feed the wire or string through

Step 3: Cover the kitchen roll tube with lard and then evenly spread a layer of bird seed over the area

Now hang in your garden & watch the birds as they feed

Here is the bird feeder I made



Flowers



Did you know?

Buttercups flower between May and August and can be found throughout the UK. A childhood favourite – if a yellow reflection appears while held under the chin it is considered that person likes butter.

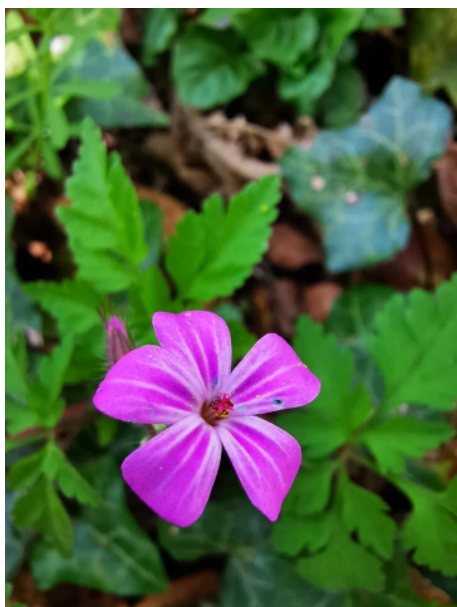
Did you know?

The dandelion is often seen as a weed and is found in grassy places. A childhood favourite – Counting down the clock while blowing the fluffy seeds from its head.



Did you know?

Bluebells usually leaf early in Spring and grow well in old, dense woodland because the thick foliage limits growth of other competing flora. The Bluebell is my favourite childhood plant with many memories.



Did you know?

Herb Robert is a weed spread by seed, has five petals, and grows commonly in shaded areas such as woods, hedgerows or banks.

You will see these from May to September.

Did you know?

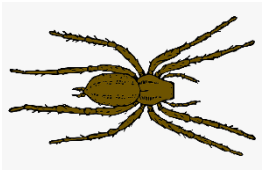
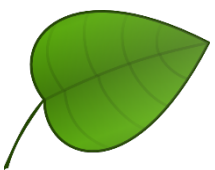
The Daisy belongs to the largest family of plants in the world and represents purity and innocence. A childhood favourite of mine was making daisy chain necklaces.



My findings and research into the different flowers, trees, birds and wildlife from the woods inspired me to create a 'Tremains Woodland Wildlife Hunt' worksheet for the local children who attend the school or live in the community to complete when they visit. I will send the worksheet I created to Tremains Primary School and upload to the Tremains Woodland Rangers Facebook page to allow people in the community to print and use my resource. I have attached the worksheet I created to the following page to be seen.

Tremains Woodland Wildlife Hunt

Complete this worksheet while exploring the woodland. You may want to bring along a magnifying glass or binoculars. Work in groups and count how many of each item you can find

Spider 	Daisy 	Leaves 
Birds 	Butterfly 	Foot bridge 
Ant 	Bluebells 	Rocks 

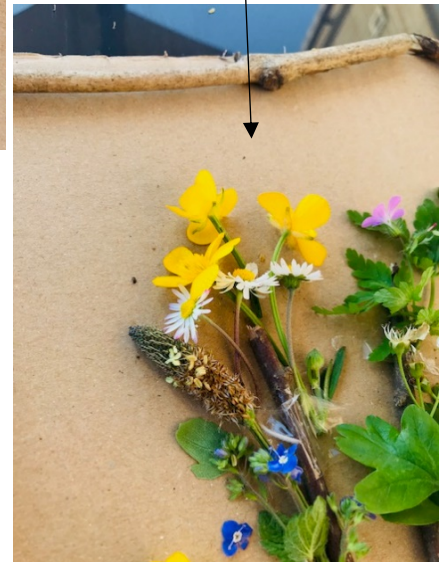
Now think about you what have discovered and how these link with our senses - write a sentence about what you could see, feel, smell, and hear on your wildlife hunt.

While exploring the woodland I came across many different plants and flowers which inspired me to create a piece of art made from the things I collected which turned out beautiful.

Daisies



Buttercups



**Colourful
&
Natural**



Footpaths and Bridges



I found a variety of footpaths and bridges while exploring the woodland. Some had been made by the local council and some had been made by Tremains Woodland Rangers



This path was made by Tremains Woodland Rangers after a very wet season. They built this to make access around the woodland easier for the local community.



These paths add to the beautiful scene of the woodland. They remind me of my childhood when I would go and explore the local woods in my hometown with my parents and have inspired me to go back and visit and compare the differences between the two areas.

The Tremains Woodland Rangers announced on Facebook that they will be building more bridges and pathways over the coming months to help ease access during the winter seasons so the community can continue to access the woodland safely all year round.





I discovered a river running through the woodland and was fascinated by where it may have originated from. I followed the river to but was unable to identify the source. However, after some research online I discovered that in 2018 children from the local primary school who use the woodland area discovered foul smelling sewage pumping into the river. The school contacted the local councillor regarding this, and it was discovered that a local sewage system had become blocked resulting in it polluting the river. This discovery allowed me to reflect on my exploration and my other findings of the woods and I decided I wanted to do something to help with the current issues facing the woodland.

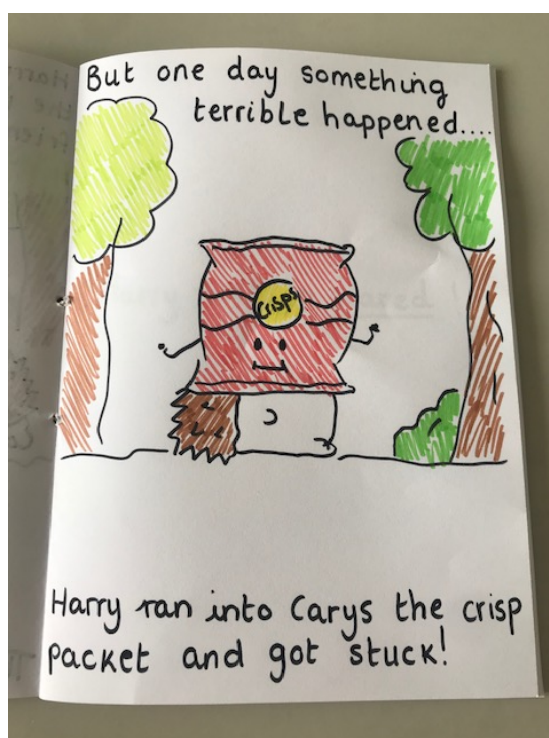
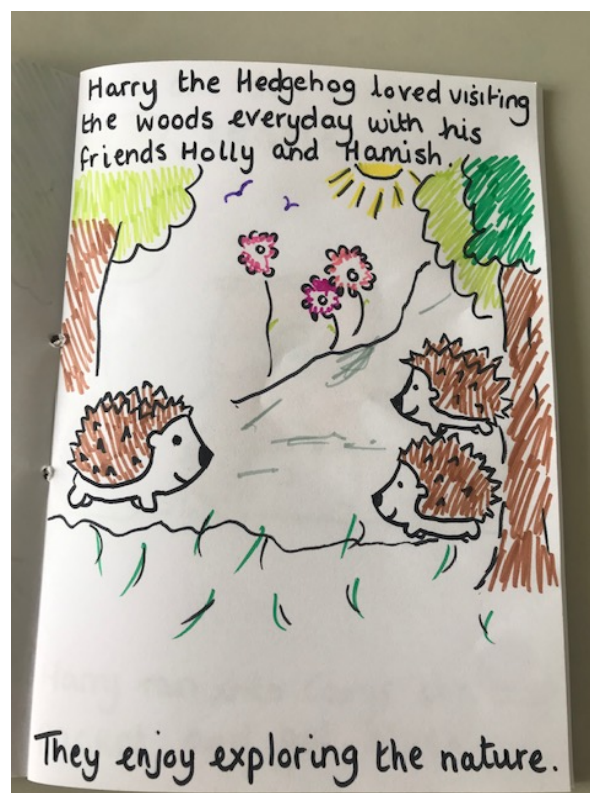
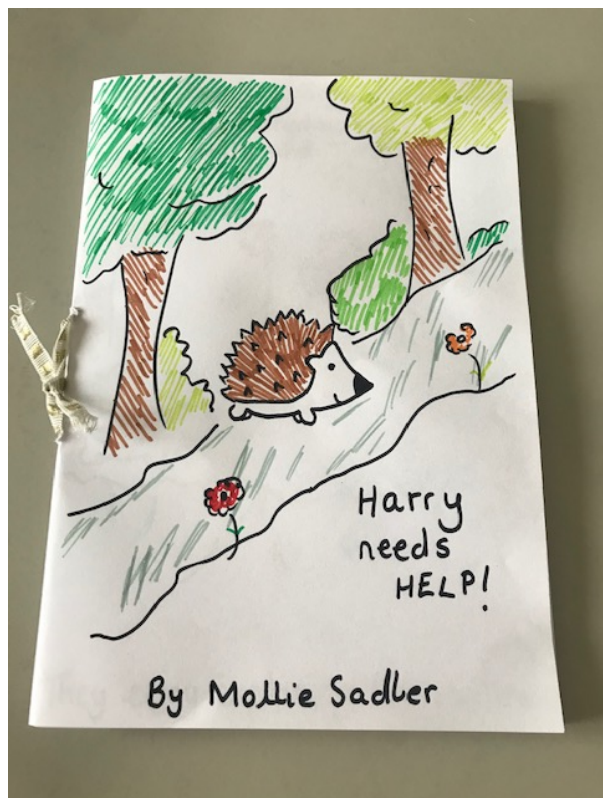


The amount of litter I noticed during my walk through the wood shocked me. I decided to investigate the area and found that for such a large public woodland area which was also surrounded by two large fields that there were not many rubbish bins. During my walk I found two bins in total which I feel is not enough.



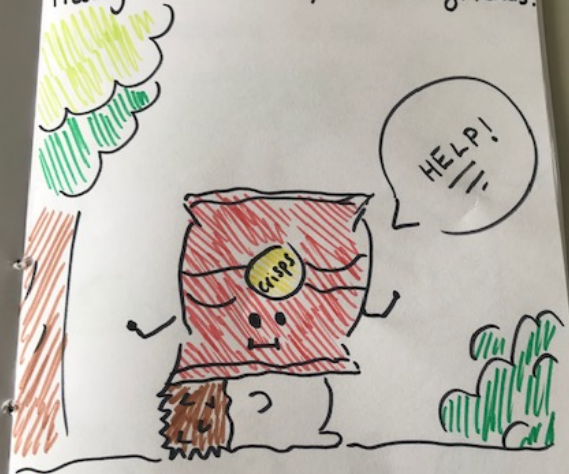
I was inspired to make a short story to help educate children on the negative impacts littering has on wildlife and the importance of recycling.

Here is the story I created. At the end of the story I included some questions and activity ideas to get the children thinking about their local environment and what they could do to help.



Harry was so scared !

Harry shouted for his friends.



"Holly, Hamish, Help!!"

Holly and Hamish could hear Harry calling them.



They went to find him..

When they found Harry they could not believe their eyes!



They knew they needed to save Harry as quickly as possible.

They pulled Harry by his legs using all their strength until....

Carys the crisp packet...
Let Harry go!



"Thank you so much, you saved my life! I don't know what would have happened if you weren't here!"
Squeaked Harry with relief.

"All this litter is harming us animals. I wish the humans would put it in the bin." Said Holly.



"Don't worry guys, I have a feeling the children listening to our story know what they can do to help!" whispered Hamish with a smile.

THE END

Questions you could ask
the children after reading
this book:

1. Why did Harry get stuck?
2. What can we do to stop things like this happening to animals like Harry?

Activities you could do:

1. Ask the children to create a poster to help prevent littering.
 2. With appropriate resources complete a litter pick with the children.
-

I created a poster to place around the woodland to encourage people to use the bins



I have also decided to write a email to the local council with my concerns about the amount of litter around the area and lack of bins for such a big public space and asked them to investigate the issues with the hope that they will place extra bins and signage in the area. The email I have written is on the following page for you to read.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email to you to raise my concerns about the amount of litter I have recently discovered in Tremains Woodland in Brackla, Bridgend. I am currently completing a John Muir Award and have been exploring the area. I have discovered many beautiful things and have been inspired to help conserve the area. Whilst exploring I noticed a lot of litter on the floor and in the beautiful hedges and I am worried that this may have a negative, harmful impact on the wildlife within the woodland and it may also prevent people from the local community, the schools and families with young children visit the woods. I could not see any dog litter bins and only found two rubbish bins during my time exploring the woodland which made me think that this may be the cause of the unnecessary rubbish. I feel for such a big public area which also has a public footpath and fields running directly through the woodland that more rubbish bins would benefit the woodland. I have made posters which I will be placing around the area next week to encourage people to use the bins provided but I feel this alone will not be enough. I am asking if you would be able to investigate this issue to see if there is anything the local council can do to help protect this beautiful area.

Regards,

Mollie Sadler.