

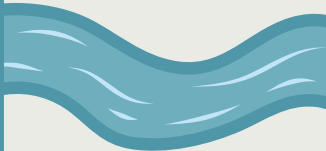
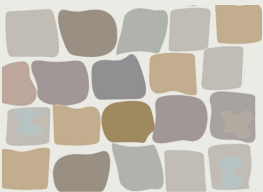
Local Explorer Challenge

Archaeology and Nature

This year we're asking you to get out and about and explore archaeology and nature in your neighbourhood and beyond. We've created a challenge for you to do with family or friends.

We've teamed up with the **Countryside Code** to encourage everyone to Respect, Protect and Enjoy the outdoors while discovering the stories of the past hidden in our landscapes.

Can you fill in a whole row or a whole column?
Or even better, can you tick off the whole card?

 Animals as decoration	 Ancient tree	 Lichen	 Building with structural timbers
 Structure connected to water	 Cobbled surface	 Nature sounds	 A place named after nature
 Rubbish	 Buildings or features made for animals	 Animal signs	 Signs and Symbols

Not sure what all of the terms mean? Here are our hints!

Animals as decoration

Maybe you'll find one in a place of religion or try a pub sign or a flag! These have historically been some of the most popular ways to add decoration to built places.

Ancient tree

A Yew tree in a churchyard or an older tree in the countryside. Can you find signs that the tree is older, what type of tree is it?

Lichen

Can you find lichen growing on a stone wall, gravestone, building or tree? Lichens can tell us a lot about the age and condition of historic places and the quality of the environment around them.

Building with structural timbers

Historically, a lot of buildings used wooden frames to hold their walls in place. Can you spot one?

Structure connected to water

Rivers and seas were historically used to transport people and goods more easily than badly maintained roads! Can you find a bridge, pier or dock which connects people to the water?

Cobbled surface

"Cobbles" are stones which have usually been rounded by water, so they don't have sharp edges. Before tarmac, these stones were set into the surface of roads to provide a hard-wearing surface. Later on, bricks and flattened stones were also used to give a less bumpy surface!

Nature sounds

Close your eyes. What sounds can you hear? trees, water, animals on a heritage site?

A place named after nature

This could be an animal, landscape, or fauna. Can you find a town, street or building near you which is associated with Nature?

Rubbish

Can you spot litter that shouldn't be there? Common examples include food wrappers, drinks cans, plastic bottles, dog waste bags and disposable barbecues. Remember: Leave no trace and take your litter home. Looking after heritage and nature starts with small actions.

Buildings or features made for animals

Look for dove cotes, beehives, sheep folds, bat boxes, bird boxes or gaps in stone walls that allow animals to move through the landscape. People have long created spaces to support livestock and wildlife.

Animal signs

Can you find any signs which say animals are here such as deer, squirrels or ducks?

Signs and Symbols

While you're exploring, look for signs that help visitors enjoy the outdoors responsibly. These might include:

- Public Rights of Way signs
- Open Access land signs
- Dog control or livestock signs
- Nature reserve guidance
- No barbecue or fire risk notices

Explorer's Tip!

As you complete the challenge, remember the three key principles of the Countryside Code:

**Respect everyone | Protect the environment
Enjoy the outdoors**

By following the Code, you'll help protect both our natural environment and the archaeological and historic places that make our landscapes so special.



The Countryside Code
RESPECT • PROTECT • ENJOY

CBA
FESTIVAL OF
ARCHAEOLOGY
2026