

ART TRAIL

A Walk in the County Park with Diggerty Dog

Before you start following the trail you will need to find a soft pencil or a crayon. The Art Trail (blue arrows) starts from the map in the car park. On many of the Art Trail posts you will find a rubbing plaque. Each square on your sheet corresponds to a plaque. Place the paper over the plaque and rub the pencil softly over the square to transfer the picture on the plaque to your sheet.

If you have a dog with you please do not go through the Play Area but turn right after the Swallow, (skipping the Snail) and follow the path around the Play Area and pick up the trail on the other side where you will find the Bat.

"It's a good day for a walk – I love to explore and meet my friends" said Diggerty Dog as he bounced along the path".

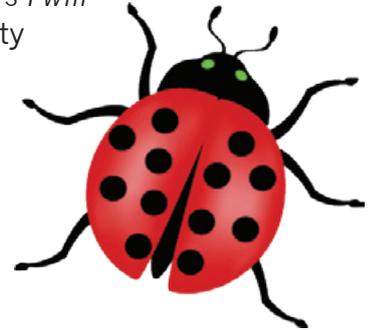


Foxes and dogs are not the best of friends and don't play together, but sometimes if they see each other, they stop and stare and then go on their way.

"This is just the sort of place I might see a fox" thought Diggerty. "They like to be in the open fields but they also like to be near houses to see what tasty things people have left".



"I can't sit here all day" thought Diggerty, "I still have lots of running and exploring to do and I haven't said hello to my smallest friend in the Park, the little Ladybird. I'm sure if I look in the wild flowers I will see one" and Diggerty nosed around in the flowers hoping to see his ladybird friend.



"Oh, I know – while I'm looking in the flowers and the grass I'll see if I can spot one of my many Bumble Bee friends. They are all over the Park but while I'm looking here, I might see one collecting pollen" said Diggerty..."and anyway if I can't see one, I'm sure I will hear one buzzing around in the sun".

Diggerty ran and bounced and bounced and ran, making sure he didn't get too close to the Brambles because he didn't want to scratch his nose on the prickles, but he wished he could eat the blackberries that grew on the bushes in the Autumn.



"Well, if I don't see the bees, I can always explore the bushes and trees – my favourite is the hawthorn tree with its bright red berries and lovely blossom in the Spring"
said Diggerty.



"Well, I'm busy too, there's still lots to see so I'm off to the fishing lake – there's always an adventure there. I might see a Dragonfly on the way. I always try to chase them but they are too fast for me!"



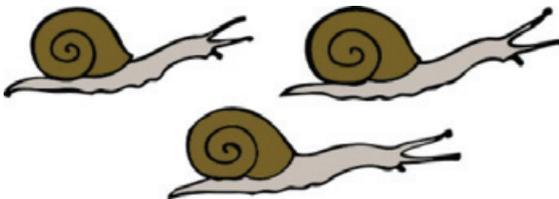
"Ah at last I'm near the fishing lake" said Diggerty. "I think I'll go down there and see if my old friend the Heron is standing in the water keeping his feet cool. He stands very still looking at the water to see if a tasty fish will swim by and if it does, well, in a flash the Heron dips his head in the water and scoops up the little fish".



Diggerty wished he was tall like a Heron and could stand still for ages and ages but no, he's just a little dog and loves running up and down the paths looking for his friends. While Diggerty is still near the lake he looks up to the sky and all around just in case his friends the Swallows have arrived. *"They only visit me in the Summer"* thought Diggerty. *"They fly many, many miles to come to see me and then they fly away again at the end of Summer."*



On and on ran Diggerty Dog, sniffing the ground and looking all around for his friends. Suddenly he saw a small blob on the path ahead of him and thought to himself *"that's a strange looking stone, I think I'll investigate"*. Up Diggerty ran and looked down. *"Hah, that's not a stone, it's a Snail and it's moving very, very slowly."*



"Oh look, we are near the church where the Bats live, but they will be asleep now because they like to fly when it begins to get dark."

They swoop low catching flies and although it's quite dark, they never bump into anything" thought Diggerty to himself, wondering how they manage to fly so fast in the dark.





While Diggerty walked along the path near the church, he pricked up his ears hoping to hear his friend the woodpecker drilling a cosy nest in the tree trunk with its sharp beak.

(It's really called a Great Spotted Woodpecker, but Diggerty doesn't have time for long names).

The woodpecker lives in the fir trees in the churchyard and is always busy in Spring feeding the baby woodpeckers when they hatch.

It's getting near the end of Diggerty's walk now and he feels sad that it's almost time to go home. There's one more friend that Diggerty wonders whether he will see.

Diggerty ran round and round and then thought to himself *"I think I can hear the Robin, he must be nearby – he sings loudly and sometimes he follows me down the path - he always has a story to tell. I know Robin red breast is very busy at Christmas time but I might see him today"*.



And so Diggerty reached the end of his walk and found himself back at the carpark. *"It's time to go home now and have something to eat and then a nice long sleep"* thought Diggerty *"and then I shall be ready for another walk in the Park to visit all my friends"* and he walked off, wagging his tail at the thought of all his new adventures tomorrow.



Come join us again for another adventure soon!

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