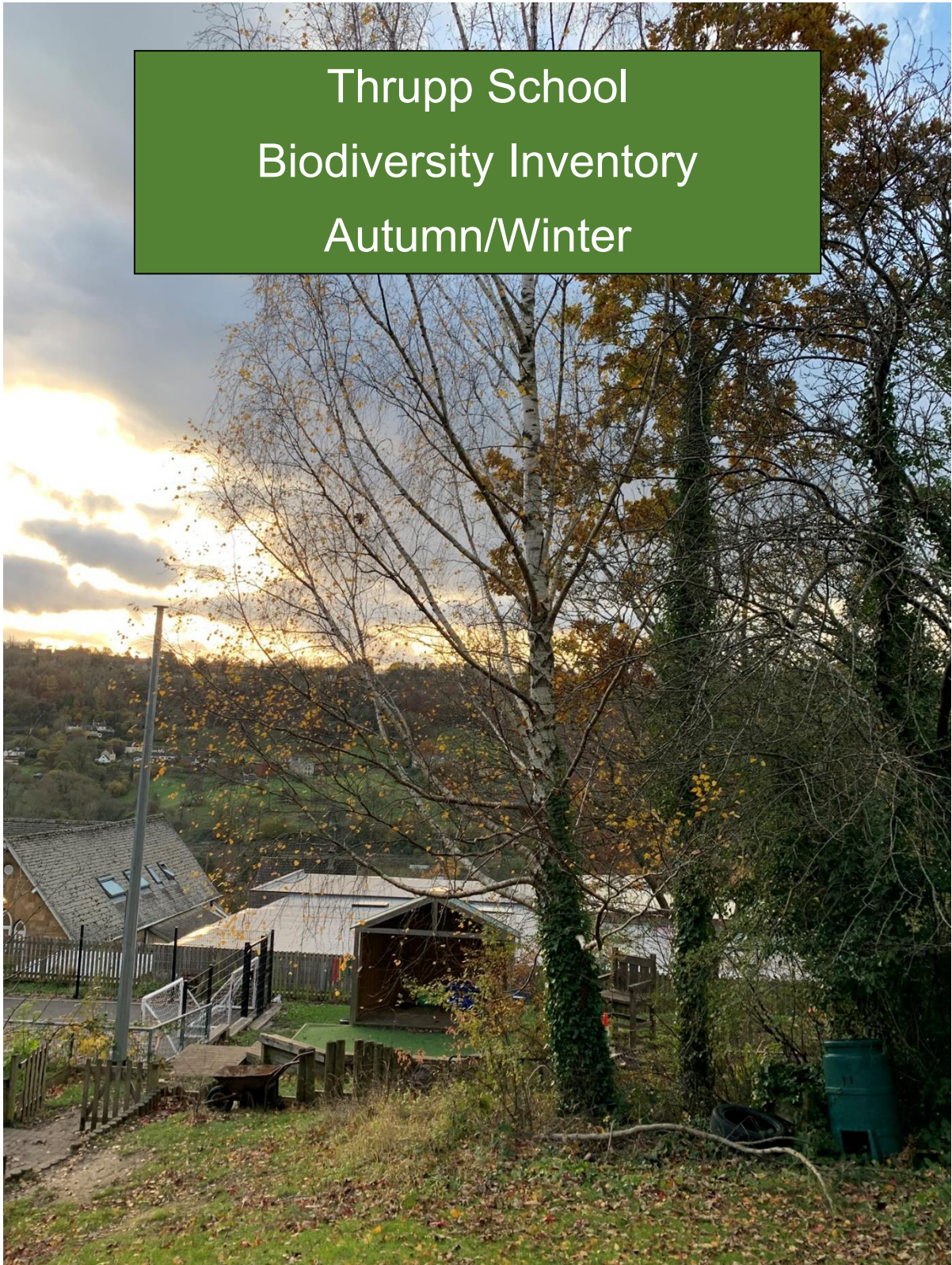


Thrupp School
Biodiversity Inventory
Autumn/Winter



For the Autumn/winter inventory years 1, 2, 5 and 6 became citizen scientists on Friday afternoons and helped count some of the amazing species that live on the school playgrounds!

Lichens

Year 6s learnt about how lichens can be excellent bioindicators of clean air. We discussed the symbiotic relationship of the fungus providing the structure and the algae performing photosynthesis. Year 6 searched and counted lichen from the 3 main structural groups.

	Castle	Top	Bottom
Crustose	83	918	215
Foliose	31	95	15
Fruticose	16	16	2

Trees

Year 5 and 2 helped to identify the trees on site. They also discussed why trees are amazing, coming up with the following...

- They help clean the air and combat climate change.
- They are fun to climb and make us feel good.
- Habitat for lots of creatures.
- Collect water and help prevent flooding.
- Can be used for firewood.

The children collected fallen leaves and used books to identify 18 tree species

Trees identified: Norway spruce, Scots pine, Silver birch, Dogwood, Hawthorn, Privet, Looking glass mangrove, Beech, Rose of Sharon, Lime, Ash, American sweetgum, Sycamore, London plane, Ivy, Oak, Swedish whitebeam

Birds

Each year spent 10 minutes sitting quietly and seeing what birds they could spot. We discussed why there were so few birds at this time of year.

12 pigeons

7 crows

4 jackdaws

1 magpie

Minibeasts

Year 1 were amazing junior entomologists! We spent time looking around the castle area and top playground for minibeasts. It was tricky to find any as we discussed how lots of them were hiding or hibernating or on holiday for the winter. When we got back to classroom we counted up what we had seen.

	Castle Area	Top Playground	Bottom playground
Spider	16	4	0
Chucky pig	49	10	0
Ants	7	0	0
Earthworm	3	0	0
Slug	6	2	0
Snail	3	3	0
Fly	23	8	0
Giraffe	1	0	0

Actions for Eco council:

From this report the eco council could....

- Think of ways to welcome more wildlife in winter.
- Ways to improve inventory for spring?
- Get the school ready for spring?