



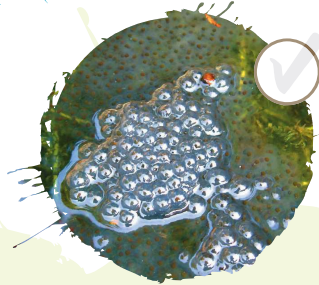
Ready to get detecting?

Look for the first signs that spring is on its way



Bird song

Listen for birds like the song thrush tweeting that spring is on the way.



Frogspawn

Look for balls of jelly in ponds, ditches and slow-moving streams. The black specks are eggs.



Hazel catkins

These are the male flowers of the hazel tree. They're sometimes called lambs' tails.



Snowdrops

One of the earliest bulbs to flower. Look out for them in damp woods and by streams.

First signs of spring



Birds building nests

Keep your eyes peeled for birds carrying materials for nest-building.



Bluebell shoots

These pop up early to get as much light as possible before the tree canopy closes over.



Lesser celandine

Look out for shiny yellow flowers and heart-shaped leaves covering woodland floors.



Primrose

Primroses like damp and shade; spot them in woods, meadows and hedgebanks.



Elder budburst

The elder is one of the first trees to sprout leaves. Look out for its dark red buds bursting open.

Keep your eyes peeled during January and February – spring's not as far off as it seems.

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