The Queen’s garden is a vital oasis of calm green space in the city. It is visited by 40,000 guests at The Queen’s Garden Parties and 400,000 summer visitors to Buckingham Palace. However, lots of wildlife is encouraged to come and live here – including birds, fish and insects.

**Look out for some of them and their different habitats…**

*Are any of these birds on the lawn today?*

- Wood Pigeon
- Mallard
- Coot
- Canada Goose
- Greylag Goose
- Magpie

Over 50 types of bird use the garden throughout the year and more than 30 types live here.

**THE LAWN**

This is where The Queen holds garden parties. There is also a helicopter pad! It’s quite well hidden but you may see a square of grass which is a slightly different colour to the rest.

*Tick here when you’ve found it*

**THE LAKE**

Continue after the shop, when the lake comes into view.

*Make a drawing of the lake around Prince Albert boating.*

There are more than 13 million litres of water in the lake – that’s around 36 school swimming pools!

Be careful of the lake! Queen Victoria used to love watching her husband Prince Albert ice skating in winter but one day the ice broke and he fell in. Queen Victoria had to pull him out! In the summer, Victoria’s family would take boats out onto the water.
THE ISLAND

Queen Victoria’s husband Prince Albert used to go through this gate and over the bridge to feed birds on an island. Today it is a bird sanctuary.

There are several beehives on the island which are used to produce pots of honey for the Palace! Bees collect pollen from the flowers to take back to the hive.

Can you help this bee find its way through the maze of hedges and flowers to get to the hive?

SPECIAL TREES

Nearer to you are two Dove trees with heart-shaped leaves. The one with the plaque was given to Prince Charles, The Queen’s eldest son, when he was about 8 years old in 1957.

Before you leave this area, do you see a big dark tree with very twisted branches and bumpy bark? It is a Catalpa or ‘Indian Bean Tree’ and is more than 150 years old.

COLOUR THESE FLOWERS IN WHEN YOU GET HOME

There are lots of insects in the garden including butterflies, ladybirds, beetles and dragonflies. If you see any along the garden path, draw them in the magnifying glass here:

You’ve reached the end of this trail.

We hope you’ve enjoyed exploring the garden at Buckingham Palace today!