



Winter Walks Look for Lichens

What can you find in the churchyard?



Have you ever noticed these unusual colours and patterns when you have been out walking? They are lichens. Lichens can be found on walls, roofs, tree barks and stone. Lots of lichens can be found on older buildings like a church or on a gravestone in a churchyard.

Lichens can be colourful, large (or small) and are very surprising...

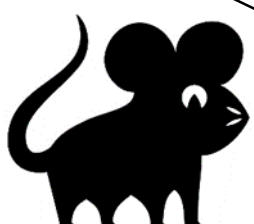
Interesting Lichen Facts:

- Lichens are not one living thing, they are a partnership between a fungus and one or more algae
- The fungus offers shelter and the algae provides the food in the partnership
- Mushrooms are a type of fungus and seaweed is a type of algae
- Lichens absorb water and minerals directly from their environment
- Lichens are good indicators of pollution and air quality
- Lichens have adapted to survive in the most extreme places in the world.

More about Lichens:

- Lichens can be used to dye clothes
- Ancient Egyptians used lichens to help make their mummies.

*Watch
your step!*



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