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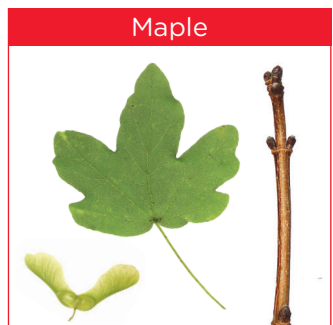
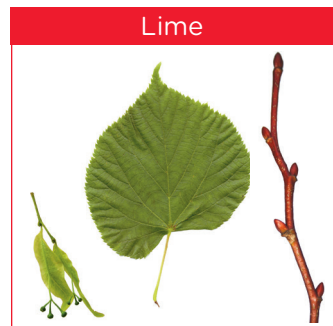
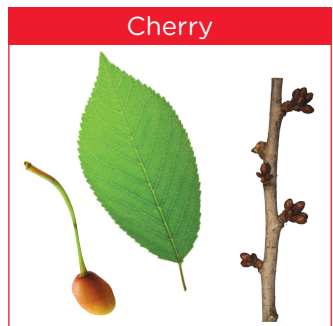
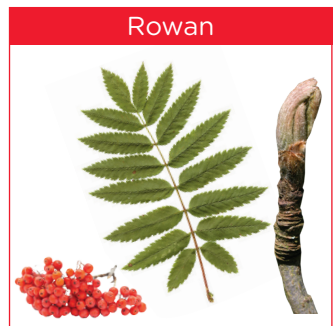
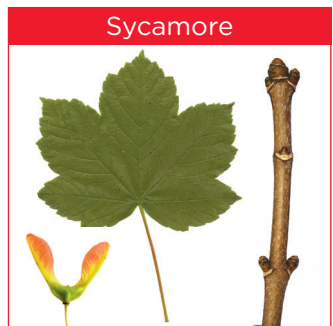
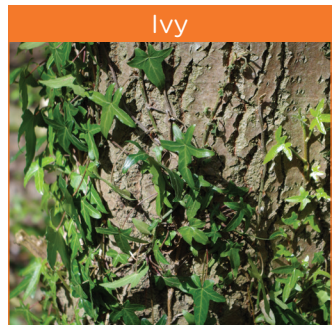
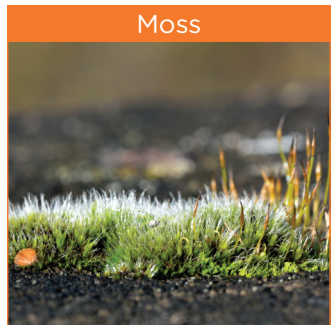
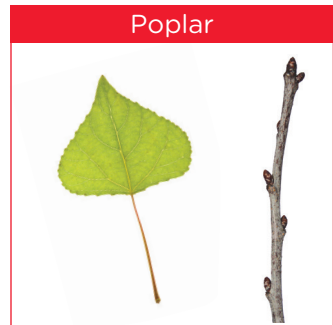
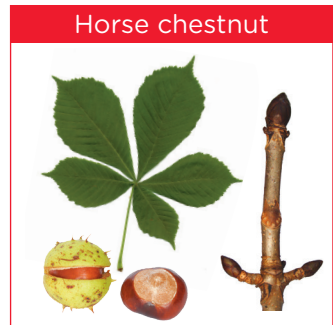
Trees

Trees

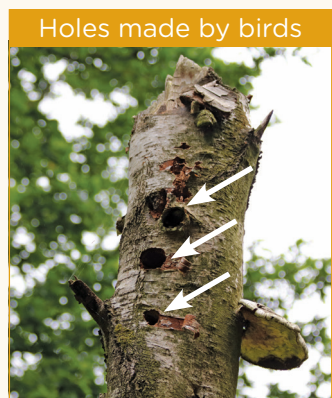
Trees

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What is growing on the deadwood?



2 Are there holes in the deadwood?



The dead good Deadwood Survey Field Guide

4 Animals on and in the deadwood

Animals on and in the deadwood

Animals on and in the deadwood

5 Stages of decay

Woodlouse
DECAY STAGE 1



14 legs. Tiny crustaceans. Up to 10mm. Some species can roll up into a ball.

Slug
DECAY STAGE 1



Slimy. Two pairs of tentacles that retract when touched. No shell.

Snail
DECAY STAGE 1



Slimy. Two pairs of tentacles that retract when touched. Shell.

Robber fly
DECAY STAGE 2



6 legs. Long legged flies. Deep groove between eyes. They hunt other insects.

Ichneumon wasp
DECAY STAGE 2



6 legs. Long thin body. Large antennae. Thin waist. Pointy abdomen.

Spider
DECAY STAGE 2



8 legs. Two distinct body segments: head and abdomen.

Lesser stag beetle
DECAY STAGE 3



6 legs. 15-20mm. Found either on the surface or in a small cavity deep inside.

Lesser stag beetle larva
DECAY STAGE 3



6 legs. 20mm. Orange head. Cream body and legs. Found in the middle of rotting wood.

Click beetle larva
DECAY STAGE 3



Legs hard to see. 25mm. Golden brown, shiny. Segmented body.

Caterpillar
DECAY STAGE 1



Legs hard to see. The larvae of moths and caterpillars. May be hairy.

Bark beetle
DECAY STAGE 1



6 legs. 5mm. Brown or black. Round body. Found just under the bark of fresh deadwood.

Earwig
DECAY STAGES 1-3



6 legs. 10-25mm. Black, shiny. May have ridges on its back.

Centipede
DECAY STAGE 2



More than 14 legs. Each body segment has one pair of legs. The antennae and legs are long.

Rove beetle
DECAY STAGE 2



6 legs. Short wing covers. May raise and curl up abdomen if threatened.

False scorpion
DECAY STAGE 2



8 legs. Very tiny arachnids. Up to 8mm. Large front 'arms' with pincers.

Earthworm
DECAY STAGE 4



Bodies made up of many segments (rings). Wiggly movement.

Bat
DECAY STAGES 3-4



⚠ Please don't disturb

4 legs (2 of which are wings). Usually seen at dusk or night. Can be found inside hollow trees.

Other mammal



4 legs. Other mammals include mice, hedgehogs, weasels, badgers and foxes.

Longhorn beetle
DECAY STAGES 1-3



6 legs. 5-40mm. Thin body. Very long antennae (may be longer than body).

Ground beetle
DECAY STAGES 1-3



6 legs. 10-25mm. Black, shiny. Long thin legs. May have ridges on its back.

Ground beetle larva
DECAY STAGES 1-3



6 legs. 10-25mm. Short legs from thorax. Abdomen with 10 segments.

Millipede
DECAY STAGE 3



More than 14 legs. Black or grey. Each body segment has two pairs of legs. The antennae and legs are short.

Hoverfly
DECAY STAGE 3



6 legs. Large eyes. Distinctive hovering flight. Can be mistaken for wasps or bees.

Mite
DECAY STAGE 3



8 legs. Very tiny round arachnids. Up to 5mm. Many different colours.

Bird



2 feathered wings and a beak.

Amphibian



4 legs. Amphibians include frogs, toads and newts.

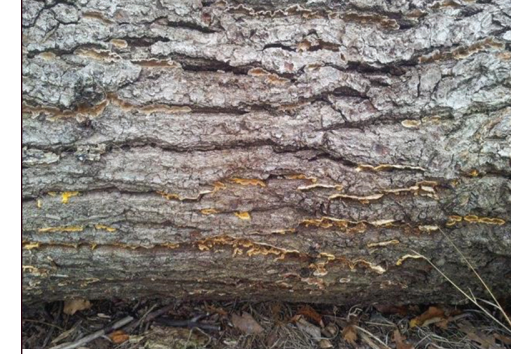
Reptile



Reptiles include snakes, lizards and slow worms.

Stages of decay. The different types of living things found in, on, and around the deadwood can tell us what stage of decay the deadwood is going through. It is good to have a variety of stages of decay in your woodland to encourage a variety of wildlife, and to have a stable, constant supply of nutrients going back into the soil.

DECAY STAGE 1: The tree dies



The wood is still hard. This attracts wood boring beetles, bark beetles, woodlice, ground beetles, slugs, snails and fungi.

DECAY STAGE 2: Predators arrive



The wood becomes softer. Spiders, false scorpions, ichneumon wasps, robber flies and centipedes move in.

DECAY STAGE 3: Mid decay



The wood is soft and spongy, and easily broken. Hoverflies, millipedes and mites appear. Beetle larvae hatch out deep inside.

DECAY STAGE 4: Humification



The wood is crumbly and similar to soil. Soil animals like earthworms replace deadwood-loving animals.^{3,4}



This pack has been developed by Jess Owen, Amanda Malcolm, Dominic Hall, Graham Burns, Tim Lewis, Alex Paterson and Amy Styles. Text and concept © The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) 2019. Bracket fungi and mushroom images © Deborah Harvey. Stages of decay images © Clare Street. Tree and animal images © Dreamstime. All other images © TCV 2019. All rights reserved.

