

IN MY GARDEN - DANDELIONS

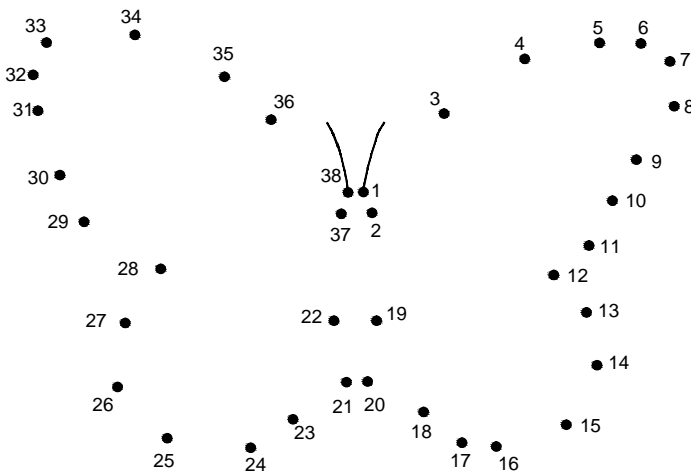


Dandelions are one of the first flowers to bloom in the Spring.

They are an important early source of nectar and pollen (food) for insects that hibernate over the winter, especially our Queen bumblebees, small tortoiseshell butterflies and other insect pollinators that are newly emerged in the Spring.

The dandelion flower opens in the morning to greet the sun and the insect pollinators and closes up at night.

Join the Dots to see an insect that feeds on Dandelions in the Spring



Colour it in and see can you find one in your garden

TO DO:

- Count the Dandelions in your Garden. more than ten and you are a biodiversity champion!  
Number Counted \_\_\_\_\_

- Fly around your garden like a newly emerged Queen Bee looking for food after a long winter hibernation.

- Count the Pollinators you see in your garden, Bees, Butterflies, flies, hoverflies, moths and the rest!  
Number Counted \_\_\_\_\_

ONLINE NATURE:

[wicklowmountainsnationalpark.ie](http://wicklowmountainsnationalpark.ie)

[biodiversity.ie](http://biodiversity.ie)

[birdwatchireland.ie](http://birdwatchireland.ie)

[met.ie](http://met.ie)

[mothsireland.com](http://mothsireland.com)

[mountaineering.ie](http://mountaineering.ie)

[npws.ie](http://npws.ie)

[orienteeing.ie](http://orienteeing.ie)

[wildflowersofireland.net](http://wildflowersofireland.net)

Draw a picture of a Dandelion with a Bee or Butterfly feeding on it

Write a note or song or poem to the Dandelions in your garden



An Roinn Cultúir,  
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta  
Department of Culture,  
Heritage and the Gaeltacht

An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiunta & Fiadhúlra

National Parks & Wildlife Service