



Bolton's lost words

WESTHOUGHTON LIBRARY • CENTRAL PARK

HIDDEN

Created as part of the
Bolton's Lost Words project
2021, in collaboration with
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Bolton
Library and
Museum Services



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**ARTS COUNCIL
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CENTRAL PARK



Central Park is home to more than meets the eye! In this trail, we'll search for the places nature slips through the cracks, and think about how it came to be here.

As you make your way through the park, draw your route on the map. Mark any places of interest you find with a cross, a circle, or a drawing.



**For this trail, you will need a camera/
camera phone and a pen/pencil.**

All through Central Park there are plants, lichen, moss and mushrooms, growing on things, under things, and through cracks.

How many places in the park can you find something growing somewhere unexpected? – Make a list or photograph what you find, and mark them on your map.

Look at the poem 'A Trip to Central Park' - if the things on your list could speak, what would they say? Try writing your own poem from their points of view.

A Trip to Central Park

I am the fern that's got a story to tell,
 as I reclaim what's mine on the library walls.
I am the tree sprouting from the chimney,
 as I try to get a head start above the buildings.
I am from a family of lichen
 – we're not all the same,
 I am the one climbing up the climbing frame.
I am the beautiful plant, ready to
 welcome the beautiful people of Howfen
 to our library.

Go to one of the edges of the park.

Can you see any plants, insects, or other animals cross over the boundary between the park and the rest of Westhoughton?

Dandelion

I am a well-travelled seed. I have flown higher than your house in wind, sun, snow, sleet, rain.

I have escaped the jaws of sparrows, braved a ride in the fur of a fox, skipped by rivers, skirted fields of crops.

I have seen the world.

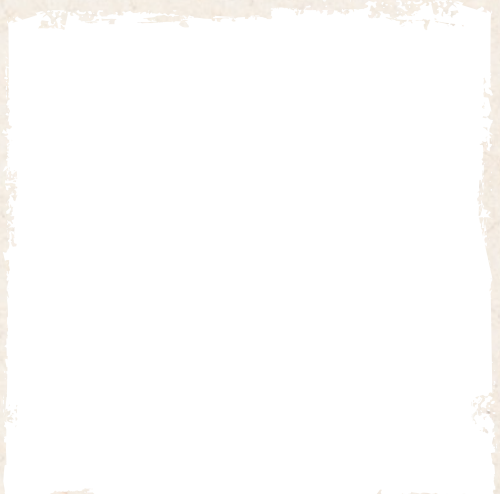
Today I choose this crack between your front door and the road to grow my home.



Dandelion

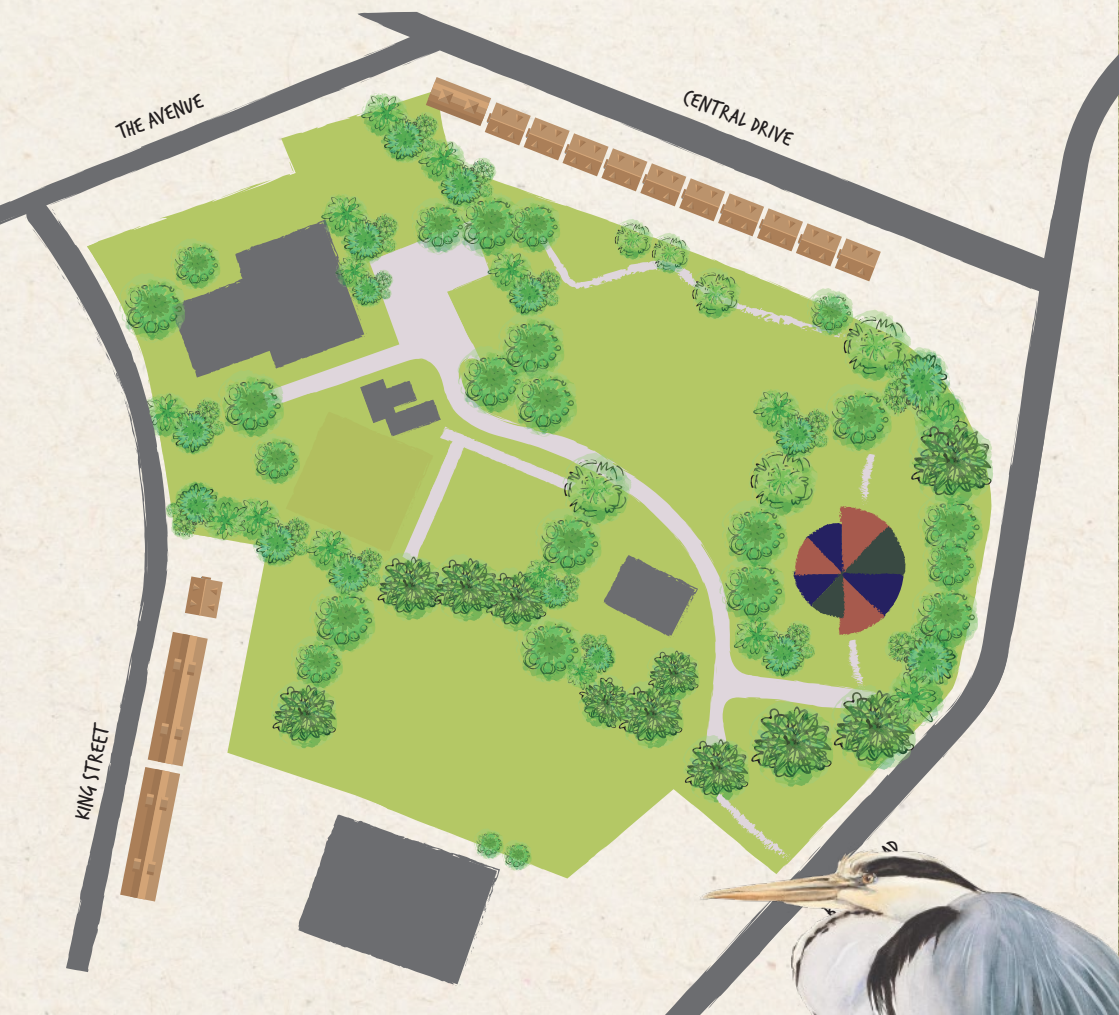
Read the poem 'Dandelion'. Imagine a journey taken by one of the things on your list - where could it go? Is its journey in the past or the future?

Write your own poem about it's journey. Your poem doesn't have to be realistic - perhaps a tree gets up and walks somewhere!



On your way home, keep an eye out for other places nature grows in the cracks - what grows in the park too? What only grows outside it?

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