



### Hello young readers!

Welcome to the second of our 'lark leaflets' for children. Firstly, well done to Amelie Davies, 8 years old from Leicester and Calli Warren age 7 from Ledbury for designing our new Lark Junior Logo! Amelie we liked your drawing and Calli we liked your title so we have joined the two together and you are both winners! Prizes are on their way.....

### Find the hidden words

Welcome to this Spring word search game. As you look for the hidden words, remember that they can run vertically, diagonally or horizontally as well as forwards or backwards. There are 6 to find altogether. Good luck!

L	I	D	O	F	F	A	D
E	R	G	B	M	A	L	O
P	J	N	D	X	D	A	K
C	Q	I	N	U	W	C	T
A	I	R	B	S	F	Y	M
L	C	P	H	V	Z	L	U
F	B	S	E	E	D	S	A

- SPRING
- SEEDS
- LAMB
- CALF
- BUD
- DAFFODIL

### The Cuckoo

The cuckoo arrives in the UK from Africa and parts of Asia around late March/April and heralds the true start of Spring. They are dove sized birds with blue/grey upper parts, head and chest and a dark barred white under part. They have a sleek body, long tail and pointed wings. Females lay eggs in the nests of other birds. They eat insects, particularly hairy caterpillars. There has been a recent population decline in these birds.



Can you un-jumble these letters to find the names of other popular Spring birds?

parsrow

lube itt

ricbbakid

oopwekdcer

trnsalig

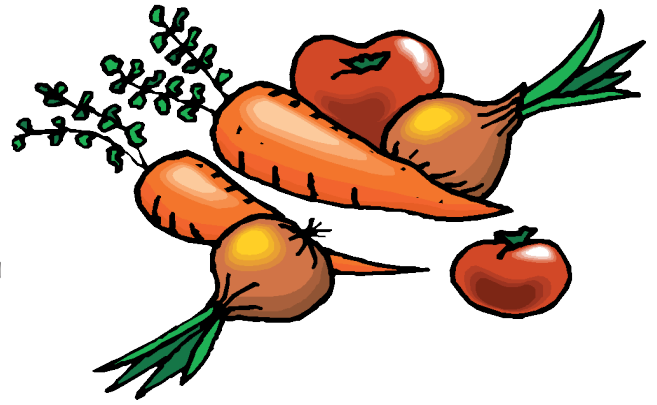
rnwe

### Competition!

We are looking for a poem about a garden bird. It could be one mentioned in our magazine or one that you think of, as long as it is a bird which visits our gardens and farmland during the Spring and Summer. No longer than eight lines please and don't forget your name, address and contact details. Send entries to **Dawn Harwood, Education Officer, 1, The Old Forge, Woolhope, Hereford, HR1 4AX** by 30th April 2012. Winners will be published in the next edition and put on our website. Good Luck!

## Spring is the perfect time to start gardening and planting seeds.

There are lots of different fruit and vegetables you could try. How about carrots? Follow these guidelines and hopefully in about 12 weeks time you will have some very tasty carrots to add to your dinner!



1. Use a very deep container to give room for the long roots. Fill it with soil-based potting compost and sow the carrot seeds where they are to grow as they don't like being transplanted.
2. Make sure you cover the seeds with soil, then water and label your pot. Keep the pot outside from mid- Spring.
3. Once they germinate, thin out the seedlings so they are about 8cm apart. Use the thinnings in salads or put into your compost bin.
4. Water often so the roots don't split.
5. Lift some when small as baby carrots. Water before lifting so they don't disturb the other carrots.
6. Leave the other carrots to get bigger and pull from the base of the stem when ready. Use a garden fork to loosen the surrounding soil.



**TOP TIP!** Sow your carrot seeds in with leeks or spring onions. The mixture of strong scents confuse pests and drive them away. This is called companion planting.

## What's happening on our farms this season?

Spring is widely known to be the Farmer's favourite season. The days start to get longer, the fields are full of lush, green grass and there is a lot of new life on the farm. It is also the busiest time on the farm.

The fields need spreading and rolling with good natural fertiliser to nourish the ground and create healthy soil for grass and crops to grow well. Seeds are sown ready for the growing season. New life is in abundance. Here at Awnells we welcome newly born calves but other CRT farms are also having new lambs and piglets as well as lots and lots of baby birds and young wildlife such as rabbits and hedgehogs roaming around our land and making new homes.

Very soon we will start to see buds and then blossom appearing on the fruit trees and the rhubarb is already a pretty good size.

The farmer heralds the true start of Spring with the distinctive call of the Cuckoo so listen out carefully....

Don't forget, if you have any photos or pictures of life on a farm please send them in and we will try to include them in future editions (address on front page).

we look forward to receiving your bird poems!

**Thanks for reading!**

The Countryside Restoration Trust

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