



# DOWN'S DIARY

Your guide to watching wildlife

## March



Primrose



Crocus



Blackthorn



Sweet violet

March is the month of spring! Many trees are budding, the **blackthorn** is a froth of white blossom and flowers can be found across the Downs such as **primroses, sweet violets, lesser celandine, crocus, and dog violets**. Bees and butterflies such as the **brimstone** are starting to feed, **fox cubs** are being born and **hedgehogs** are waking up from their hibernation.



Bumblebee

You may start to notice, particularly on Zoo Banks, that there is a familiar smell in the air. This is caused by the **field garlic** that is now rapidly sprouting out of the ground. They look a bit like chives and have a garlic smell.



Field garlic

The dawn chorus is in full swing again, with **blackbirds** in the lead. Many wonderful birds can be heard like the **dunnock, robin, chaffinch, greenfinch** and **song thrush**. **Redwings** leave for Scandinavia and **chiffchaffs** arrive back from Africa. Later in the month **swallows** can be seen passing through the Avon Gorge.



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Blackbird



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Robin



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Chiffchaff



Redwing

Tell us about your wildlife sightings! Contact Mandy Leivers, 0117 9030609, [mleivers@bristolzoo.org.uk](mailto:mleivers@bristolzoo.org.uk)

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