# TEDDY'S SECRET ADVENTURES AT... ~ ASTON BRICKYARD

Aston on Trent Brickyard Plantation – DE72 2AE Grid Reference is SK414303

Dogs on a lead. No parking at the site but plenty of considerate off-road parking along Derby Rd.

Bertie arrives at the gates of Aston on Trent Brickyard Plantation and wonders what is inside. A beautiful blue butterfly lands on his shoulder and a tiny voice says to him 'Come inside and have a look, there's

lots of things to see here.' Bertie looks to see who is talking to him and realises it is the butterfly. 'Hello' it says 'I'm Icarus, a Common Blue butterfly. I live here with some of my friends.'

Bertie walks through the gate with the butterfly fluttering by his side. In front of him he can

see a big concrete bank and wonders what it is. 'Ah that was a loading bay for the bricks. They were made here for over 100 years and

bricks. They were made here for over 100 years and each brick had Aston written on it. If you look around you may see one.' explains Icarus. Bertie sees the big purple sign and decides to take the path to the right. The butterfly flies off to the right and Bertie notices that behind the fence there are people with bows and arrows. 'Ooh, archery' says Bertie 'I better make sure I keep to the path.' As he walks up the hill Bertie can hear lots of different noises -

#### WHAT CAN YOU HEAR? COWS/SHEEP/CARS/BIRDS

Cook at this' whispers Icarus. Bertie looks to his left and sees a huge pile of stones. 'What is it?' he asks. 'This,' says the butterfly 'is our sunbed. It has been put here especially for us so that we can lie in the sunshine after we have had our delicious lunch of nectar from the wild flowers that grow here. This woodland is very important for butterflies and there are about 24 different types that live here but they come

out and play at different times of the year.' 'Wow!' whispers Bertie 'I didn't know there were so many different types of butterfly all living in one place. If I see some I will write them down in my notebook.'



#### TORTOISESHELL PAINTED LADY ORANGE-TIP



Leave the butterfly bank and continue up the hill as it wiggles through the trees and round to the left

Learus floats away and lands on a bench near a field. Bertie takes a seat and looks out across the field where he can see horses and chickens. Today is a sunny day so he can see lots of things a long way in the distance.

## WHAT CAN YOU SEE?



IF IT IS A VERY CLEAR DAY YOU CAN SEE CRICH MEMORIAL WHICH IS ABOUT 20 MILES AWAY.





Bertie and the butterfly leave the bench and continue on their walk. They go uphill and then downhill as the path wiggles through the trees.

'Wow!' says Bertie as he sees a clearing in front of him 'What's that?' Icarus goes over to a big box shaped thing and sits on it. 'This is a Bug Hotel' says the butterfly 'it has been made with lots of different materials to attract lots of different bugs and insects. If you look you can see sticks, cones, hay and grass. If you look really carefully you might see some bugs.'

## HAVE A LOOK AROUND AND SEE IF YOU CAN SEE ANY BUGS. IF YOU HAVE A CAMERA THEN TAKE A PHOTO AND ZOOM IN - CAN YOU SEE ANYTHING ELSE?

<sup>6</sup> Bertie sees some benches near the bug hotel and goes to sit down. Icarus follows him. The benches are in a circle looking out over the fields. Icarus tells Bertie that it is a story glade. Bertie closes his eyes and thinks of his favourite story – The Three Little Pigs. 'Ooh yes' he says 'It would be lovely to sit here with my friends and listen to somebody telling a story. Or I could be the story teller and tell them a story.'

'Time to go home Bertie' says Icarus 'it's getting dark and time for teddies to have their tea.'



The butterfly leads Bertie from the story glade along the path and down towards a meadow. From the meadow Bertie can see the butterfly bank again and knows he's nearly at the end. 'Thank you so much Icarus, I have had a lovely walk and would love to some back for a picnic and a story.'

'My pleasure Bertie' replies the butterfly 'and don't forget to look out for some of my butterfly friends in your garden too.'

Follow the path around the meadow and through the trees until you reach the start.

FOLLOW BERTIE'S OTHER ADVENTURES AT... ELVASTON CASTLE, GOSELEY, ROSLISTON FORESTRY CENTRE, HILTON GRAVEL PITS AND EUREKA PARK

> When you have finished the walk why not make a nature picture using some of the materials on the ground?

You can use sticks for a frame then leaves/ stones/grass etc to create your picture. Take a photo and ask a grown up to put it on the Rosliston Forestry Centre Facebook page.

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# www.southderbyshire.gov.uk