



CHRISTMAS NATURE CRAFTS

PINECONES

Why not go on the hunt for pinecones with the family and then use what you find to make extra Christmas decorations! You could then turn them into snow topped or metallic pinecones! Just paint their edges with white paint to look like snow or cover completely in silver or gold paint. You could even add glitter too! These would look great in windowsills, gathered in a vase, around a fireplace or underneath the Christmas tree! You could even try to make Christmas tree pinecones! Cover them completely in green paint and when dry, add small beads to the pinecone scales and sprinkle with glitter. Have a collection of smaller pinecones and want to level up your crafts? Why not paint them all one colour, let them dry then glue the sides together to form a shape – perhaps a heart! The National Trust has more information on these [here](#).



STICKS/TWIGS

If you gather up some straight sticks/twigs that you can find out and about at the Country Park here at BVP, you can also make some Christmas tree style decorations! Combine those sticks with some scrap ribbon you may have lying around from other Christmas crafts or present wrapping and you can make some Scrap Ribbon Christmas Trees! (If the weather isn't on your side for venturing out to find sticks – you could also use cinnamon sticks!). Once you have your twigs and scrap ribbon – take a twig (approx. 6 inches) and tie each the ribbon scraps around the twig. You can use different colours of scrap ribbon, or stay with tones of green to recreate an actual Christmas tree! Once each piece of ribbon has been tied on, cut the edges into the shape of a Christmas tree.

To turn these into something to hang onto your Christmas tree or elsewhere, tie or glue a loop of twine to the top of the scrap ribbon tree!

Once you've done this and the glue is dry – your scrap ribbon Christmas tree decoration is complete! See [here](#) for more information.



LEAVES

Perhaps consider picking up some fallen leaves when out on a walk around the Country Park. If you have any spare buttons lying around, you could create some leaf and button Christmas trees like the ones [here](#). This tutorial suggests using a needle and thread to attach the buttons to the leaves – you could always adapt to using glue instead! And use items other than buttons to decorate the leaves!

SYCAMORE SEEDS/"HELICOPTERS"

Sycamore seeds, or "helicopters" look so festive if they're painted and covered with matching glitter! See [here](#) for more info on how to make these and how to turn them into a great addition to your Christmas tree!

