

CHAPTER 3 FRED WANTS TO BE A FUNGUS DETECTIVE

The book went on to say that if you want to be a Fungus Expert you've got to become a Fungus Detective.

"Wow", said Fred to himself "I wonder how can I do that?"

"Easy", said the book - "just like a detective does, you have to look for clues. Once you've got the clues sorted out, you can solve the mystery. The clues are right there in front of your eyes. Here are the first four clues you have to look for".

WHAT DOES THE FUNGUS LOOK LIKE?

WHAT SHAPE IS IT? - which fungal form

WHAT COLOUR IS IT?

WHERE IS IT GROWING?



So when you find a fungus, look very carefully at it and by finding the answer to each of the four clues you will soon be able to solve the mystery of which fungus you have found. As he read on, Fred discovered that the last clue, where you actually found the fungus, was a bit like it having an address so that you would know where to find that kind next time.



This is a very important clue, because different types of fungi like to live and grow in different places - where we find them is what we call their HABITAT. For example, some fungi like to grow in pine forests, others prefer to grow near beech trees or oak trees. Others actually grow on the trunks of trees or even on dead branches lying on the ground, or on old tree stumps, and also in all sorts of grassy meadows and fields and hedgerows.