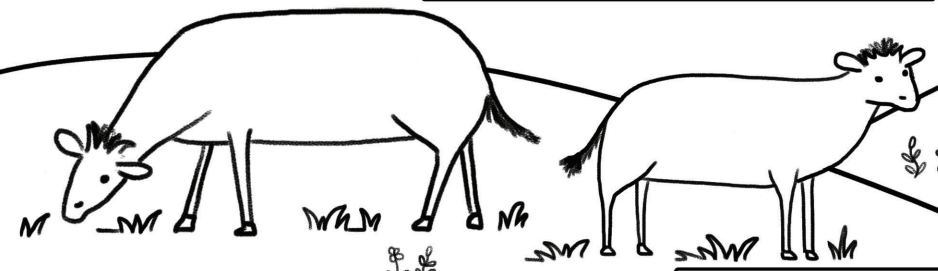


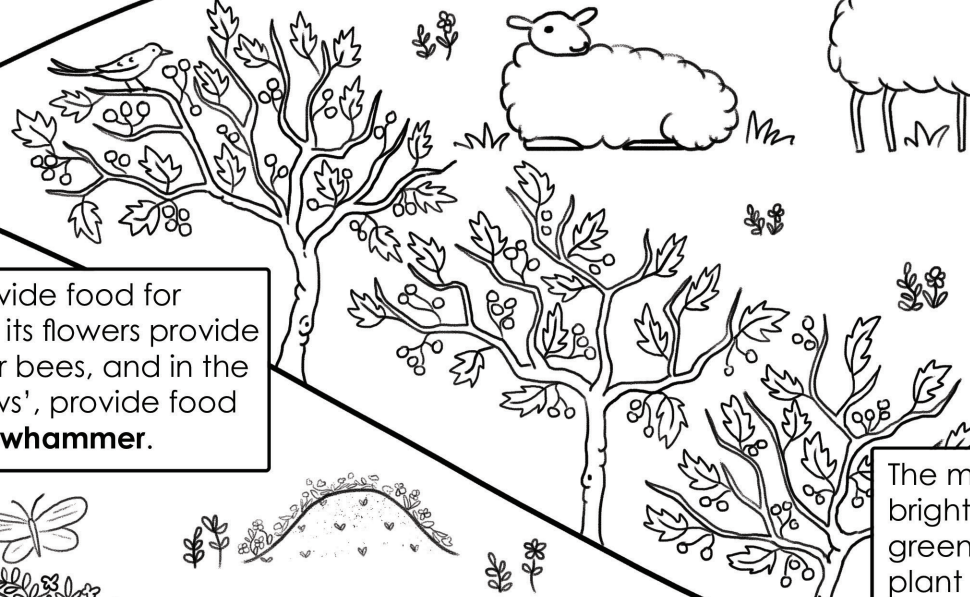
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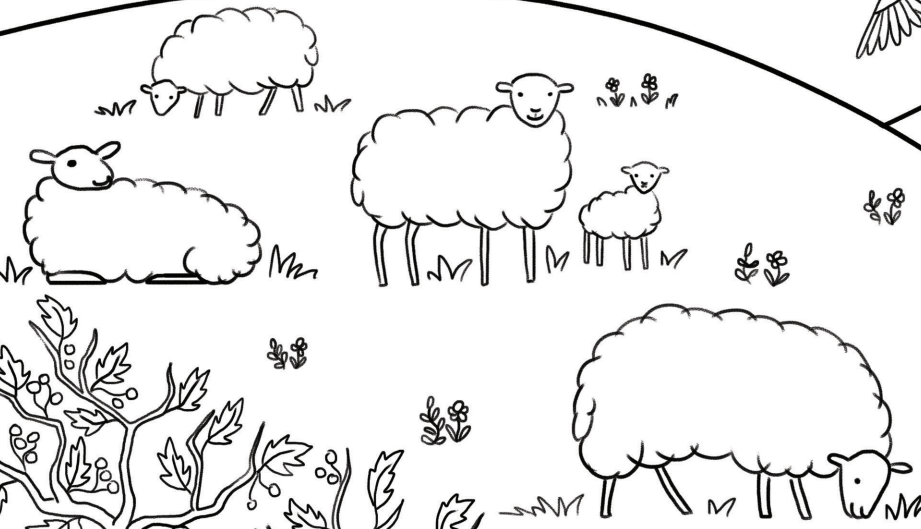
Our herd of **Dexter** cattle feed, or 'graze', on the grass. They help keep the grass short which the Adonis Blue butterfly prefers. Did you know that the Dexter is Britain's smallest breed of cattle?



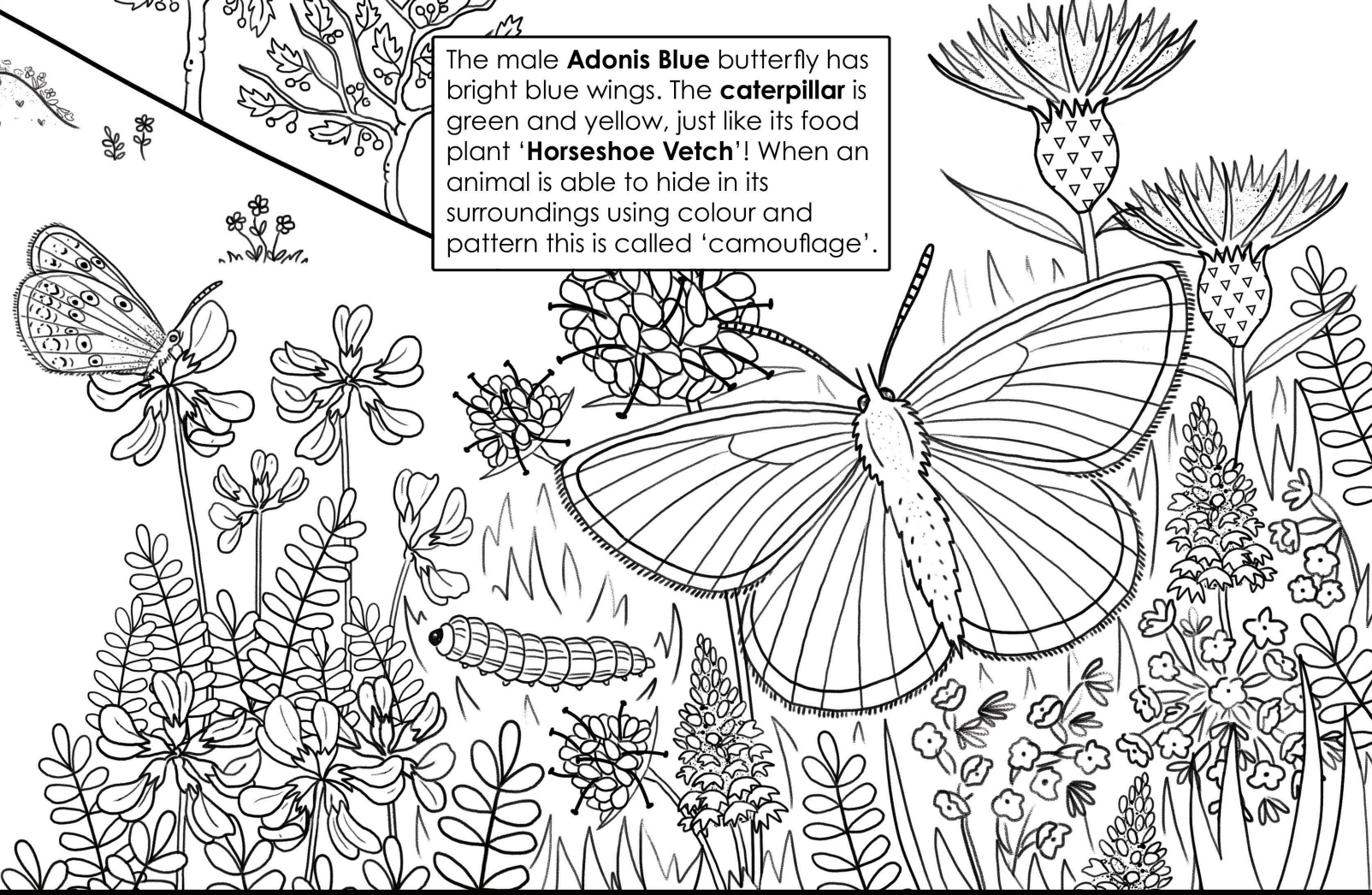
Hawthorn leaves provide food for caterpillars of moths, its flowers provide nectar and pollen for bees, and in the winter its fruit, or 'haws', provide food for birds like the **Yellowhammer**.



Our flock of **Herdwick** sheep also graze the nature reserve. They are good at climbing up and down the steep slopes and have a thick coat, or 'fleece', to keep them warm and dry. Did you know that Herdwick wool is so tough that it is usually used for making carpets?



The male **Adonis Blue** butterfly has bright blue wings. The **caterpillar** is green and yellow, just like its food plant '**Horseshoe Vetch**'! When an animal is able to hide in its surroundings using colour and pattern this is called 'camouflage'.



When the Adonis Blue caterpillar has finished growing, it forms a hard case around itself which is known as a 'pupa' or 'chrysalis'. During this stage the **ants** bury the **pupa** in their nest which helps to protect the Adonis Blue from predators like birds. The ants look after the pupa until it is ready to emerge as a **butterfly**. In return the pupa releases a sugary substance for the ants to eat.

Did you know that some ants' nests go as deep as one metre below ground and may have up to 14,000 ants living inside?

