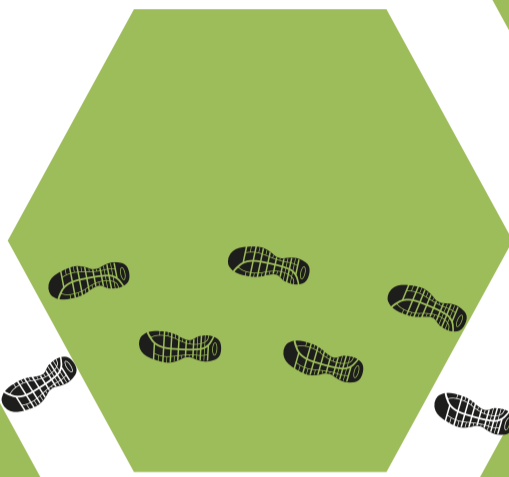


Parks

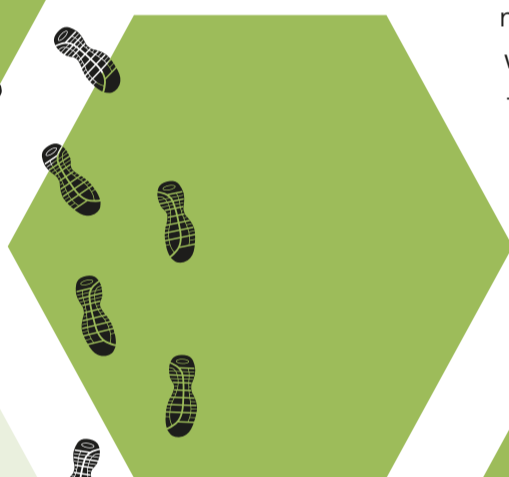
Jim and Lynne have agreed to take part in a run in the local park to raise money for charity.

1.
The family arrive early at their local park and spot a notice near the entrance saying that the park has been given a Green Flag Award. One of the children asks Jim what this means. He tells them that the award recognises this to be a well-managed and maintained green space.

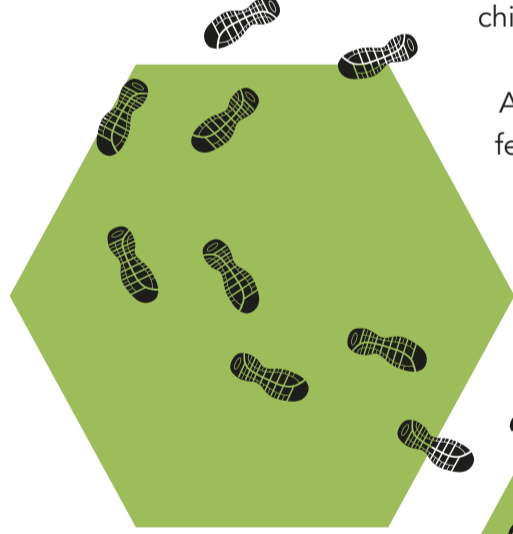
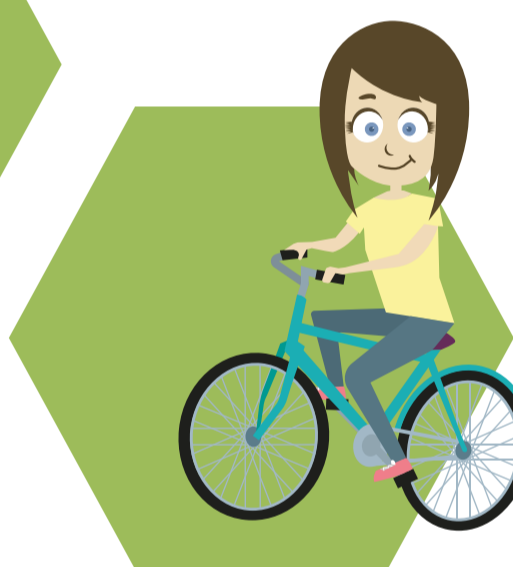


Over 37 million people regularly use parks in the UK (over 57% of the population)

2.
There is time before the race starts for the children to play, so they enjoy a kick about, and play in the park's playground area. They notice some park staff cutting the grass and managing the weeds. They talk about why the park would become unsafe if this essential work wasn't carried out.



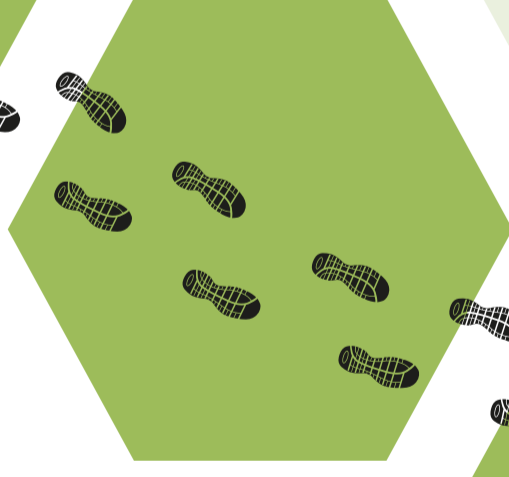
There are over 27,000 parks and green spaces across the UK.



3.
Jim and Lynne get called to their race, and the children watch with Lynne's parents who look after the children. After the race, they all go home feeling happy to have been able to enjoy a fun morning in the fresh air at the park.

Studies have shown a positive and clear link between mental health and access to parks and green spaces

4.
The family reflect on the importance of parks and green spaces for towns and cities – and how they contribute to people's well-being.



Our parks and green spaces, especially those in towns and cities are so important, as is their maintenance. Amenity maintenance matters and impacts on every UK citizen every day - promoting healthy, safe and sustainable areas fit for purpose and contributing greatly to well-being.

The Green Flag Award® scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

The Amenity Forum is the UK organisation promoting best practice in all aspects of weed, pest and disease control.