



Fairy Rings

Fairy rings are circles of mushrooms that occur naturally in forests or grass areas. In folklore they are made up of red and white toadstools and are familiar as illustrations in fairy-tale books. These magical circles of toadstools are shown as the homes of fairies, who dance around them causing trouble to any who dare step inside the rings.

Other folklore explanations for the appearance of fairy rings include people believing they appear as dragon tracks, where the devil's hoof has come to rest or where lightning has struck the ground.

'Magnifying Mushrooms' by the Boundary Way Project explored the importance and beauty of fungi through an innovative programme of creative workshops and work with artists, scientists and plant experts.



Cover image: Mushroom log artwork by children at West Park Primary School, created in a workshop with artist Jessica Hartshorn, photograph by Jessica Hartshorn. Above: Fungi Folklore Workshop in the Storytelling Area with artist and folklorist Anne Marie Lagram, photograph by Moya Lloyd.

