

HOME HABITATS



Make your own insect home and give bugs somewhere perfect to live! They will repay you by helping to control pests, and even pollinate plants.

Minibeasts need a safe place to shelter, somewhere to raise their young, and somewhere to hide from predators. Here's how to help them:

HOW TO CREATE A COSY SHELTER FOR BUGS

There are no rules for making a home for insects, so be creative. You can build them a 'Btingham Palace', a bug hotel or just a small cosy shelter like in this example.

1. Grab a bag and head outside. During your walk or around your garden, collect materials that have **already fallen** to the ground. Anything goes - look out for dead leaves, twigs, dead grass, sticks, and if you can find some hollow bamboo canes (or even paper straws) that's a bonus.
2. When back home, simply stuff the cardboard tubes full of everything you've managed to find.
3. Once you've filled them up, tie them together with string and voila! You can decorate your cosy shelter if you like; you could paint them, draw bugs on them, glue leaves to the outside and so on. Then it's time to find a place to keep it.

FINDING THE PERFECT SPOT

Most insects like a cool, shady, moist area, so try to place your cosy shelter next to a hedge, under some trees or a bush, or in tall grass. Make sure it's well hidden and that it's somewhere that it can stay for at least a year or even longer. This could be in your garden, yard, a local park or in a hedge.

For tips, facts about insects and biodiversity, Mel at Plas has written these fab guides:

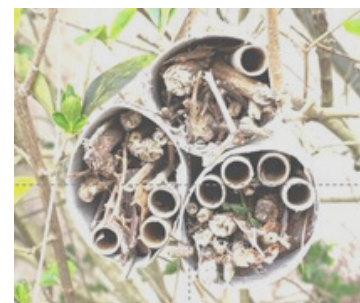
- Biodiversity: <https://bit.ly/3mw2lwV>
- Bug shelters: <https://bit.ly/3cZxOKn>

Share yours at **#SRESatHome**



YOU WILL NEED:

- Kitchen or toilet roll tubes
- string
- optional - glue / felts / paint etc



Helpful links:

- [National Trust - Wildlife in your garden](#)
- [Funky Bug Hotels](#)



More activities
bit.ly/3dnjewS

