

# Make your own bug hotel

Make your own bug hotel to provide homes for minibeasts.

Minibeasts are often under-rated. They are a vital part of nature, providing a source of food for other animals, helping to pollinate plants and recycling nutrients back into the soil.

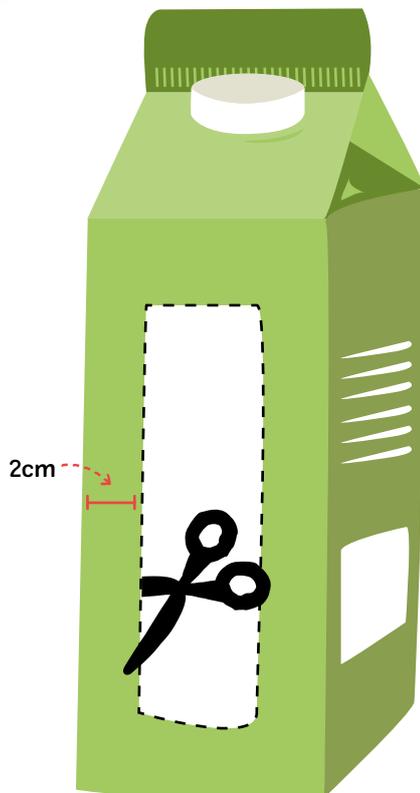
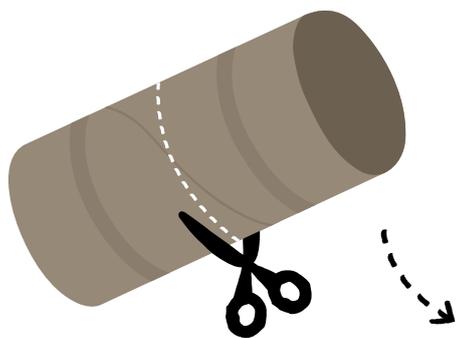
## You will need:

- An empty drinks carton
- Toilet roll tubes
- Scissors
- Sellotape
- Natural materials of your choice (e.g. moss, dried leaves, twigs, pine cones etc.)

## What to do:

**1** Cut a rectangular hole into one of the sides of your carton, leaving about 2cm around the edges. This will help to keep the materials in place.

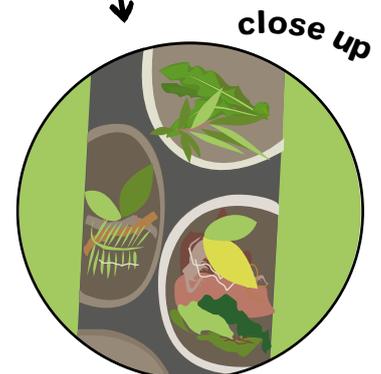
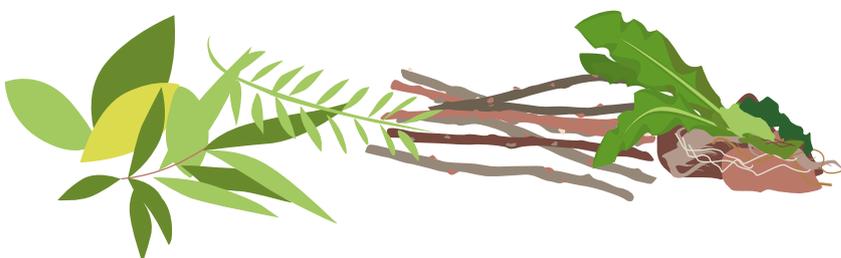
**2** Cut the toilet roll tubes so that they can fit into the carton end on.



**3** Place the toilet rolls into the carton, wedging them into place. These will provide a bit of structure to add the natural materials into.



**4** Now add your natural materials. If you have moss or dried leaves, adding these in first helps to keep everything else in place.



- 5 You might want to paint or decorate your bug hotel but this isn't essential.



### Your finished bug house!

- 6 Choose a warm, quiet spot for your bug hotel. You can thread string through the top of the carton to hang your bug hotel up or simply stand it on the ground. At the base of a tree or bush works well. If you hang it up, hang it no more than 1m above the ground.

It might take a little time for creatures to find your bug hotel but before long it should become a hive of activity.



## Connecting with nature

- How does it feel knowing that you've provided a home for some very important creatures?
- How do you think the creatures will feel when they find your bug hotel?
- Which creatures did you see using your bug hotel? How did this make you feel?

## Share the fun

We would love to see a photo of your bug hotel. Let us know which creatures moved in.

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