

# Outdoor adventures for the half term! Have fun!

For more ideas check out the Wildlife Trust and Woodland Trust websites – there are so many amazing activities to try!

## Make a nature mandala

# Make a nature mandala

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### You will need

- Bags or baskets to collect natural materials

- Natural materials:



Sticks

Grass



Leaves

Feathers



Pebbles



Pine cones



Flowers

Only pick from your own garden and leave plenty for pollinators!

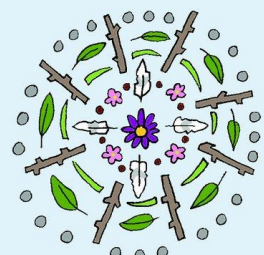
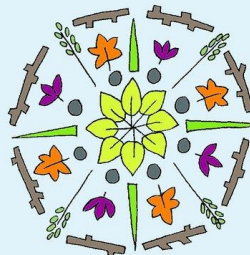
- 1 Head outdoors and collect your natural materials. Try to find a few of the same thing as this will help with your shape (eg. five yellow leaves, four twigs of equal length).



- 2 Find a flat surface – maybe a table or even your lawn or yard outside. Place one of your finds down first to act as the middle of the mandala.



- 3 Use the rest of your finds to make a pattern coming out from the centre. Consider the symmetry of your pattern, making one side mirror the other. You can be as creative as you like.



- 4 Remember to take a photo of your finished mandala!

The word 'mandala' is Sanskrit for circle. The circular shape symbolises how nature doesn't begin or end, but is always connected.

[www.wildlifewatch.org.uk](http://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk)

Make a nature version of Noughts and Crosses -  
Learn to play the game!



<https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/resource/nature-tic-tac-toe/>



**Try some leaf and flower bashing art!**

**This uses the natural dyes you find in plants!**

<https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/resource/make-a-leaf-bashing-masterpiece/>

This has a video to show you what to do!



Look closely at the bees in the garden or park!

You might even find some Tree Bumblebees nesting in a bird box!

## Bee identification

All  
bumblebees  
shown are  
worker  
bees

Wild  
About  
Gardens











 14-17mm	 12-18mm	 11mm	 10-16mm	 12-18mm
<input type="checkbox"/> Buff-tailed bumblebee	<input type="checkbox"/> Willoughby's leafcutter bee	<input type="checkbox"/> Red mason bee	<input type="checkbox"/> Tree bumblebee	<input type="checkbox"/> White-tailed bumblebee
 13-14mm	 10mm	 13mm	 13mm	 14-15mm
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed bumblebee	<input type="checkbox"/> Tawny mining bee	<input type="checkbox"/> Common carder bee	<input type="checkbox"/> Wool carder bee	<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy footed flower bee

Illustration: Corinna Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2013

[www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk](http://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk)

These are just a few of the 250+ species of bee in the UK!

# Build some hidey holes around your garden or house and see what comes to them!

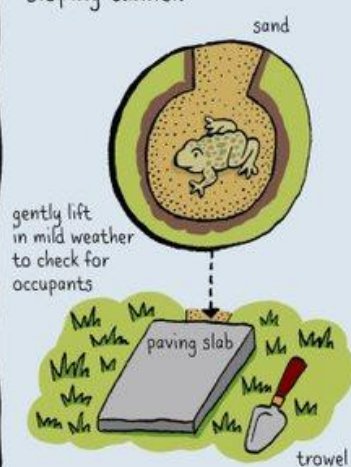
## How to build hidey holes

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### For amphibians

In a damp, cool area of the garden, dig a shallow bowl in the ground and line with sand. Cover with a slab, leaving enough room for an upward sloping tunnel.



### For hedgehogs

Rake a pile of dry leaves in a quiet, unused corner of the garden (under a bush is best). Build a mesh of twigs and branches around the pile, and leave an entrance space at the bottom.



### For minibeasts

Stack up a log pile as the bottom layer and cover with rubble or bricks (air bricks have ready made hidey holes!) Cover the pile with branches and garden trimmings.



Illustration: Corinne Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2015

[www.wildlifewatch.org.uk](http://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk)



## Make a nature loom!

Instructions on a video at

<https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/resource/make-a-nature-loom/>



# Rainy day activity!

## Make an egg carton crab

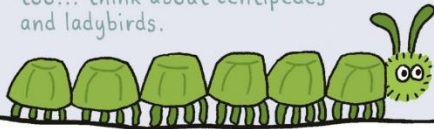
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### You will need

- One section of egg box (already cut out) 
- Four pipe cleaners (orange is a great crab colour!) 
- Two googly eyes 
- Paints and brushes 
- Double sided sticky tape 
- Scissors 
- Pencil 
- Felt pen 

You can make other creatures too... think about centipedes and ladybirds.



1 Paint the egg box section inside and out to make the crab's body. Leave to dry for a few minutes.



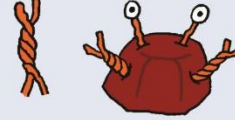
2 Cut eight pipe cleaner legs (all the same length) plus three longer pieces.



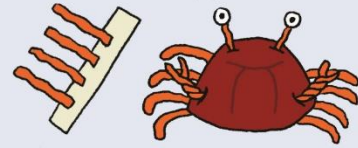
3 Make two holes for eye stalks with a pencil, and poke one long pipe cleaner through to make two eye stalks. Stick the googly eyes onto the tips of the eye stalks.



4 Twist the other two long pipe cleaners together, make two holes in the front of the body and poke the twisted pipe cleaner through to make claws.



5 Stick four leg pipe cleaners onto double sided tape and then stick them under the body to poke out. Repeat on the other side with the other four pipe cleaners.



6 Draw on a smiley mouth!



Use pom poms for heads!

[www.wildlifewatch.org.uk](http://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk)