



Making a bug hotel

Materials

Sticks and twigs

Stones

Moss

Leaves

Pine cones, tree bark, empty walnut or acorn shells.

Optional

A few bricks

A plank of wood or wooden sleeper

Why not...

Get your littleseedlings to keep a list of the creatures they spot in the bug hotel. For younger children make some bug bingo cards with pictures for them to cross out when they spot a bug.

Don't have a big garden?

You can always collect the sticks, twigs, stones and leaves on a walk in the woods.

If you haven't got lots of space or can't find a ready-made nook or cranny in your garden why not make your bug hotel in a plant pot turned on its side. Use a few big stones to prop it up and stop it from rolling around.

How to make your bug hotel

Making a bug hotel couldn't be simpler and doesn't require a long list of materials either!

The first thing you will need to do is find the spot you want to create your bug hotel in. We made ours by stacking a couple of piles of bricks and then resting a wooden sleeper across the top of them. (We then used this as shelf for our tomato plants!)

Next you will need to collect some sticks, stones, moss and leaves from around the garden.

Make little bundles of the sticks and start to fill the gaps in between the bricks with the bundles.

You don't need to tightly pack the space with sticks because you can then start to add the sticks stones, leaves and moss and other bits and bobs. Once the bug hotel is fairly full it's ready to welcome "guests".

The kids will love having a look each day to see who has "checked in."