

District Schools in Bloom 2021 Categories!



Crafting Nature

Why not have a go at some natural art!

We are looking for the most creative piece of artwork made entirely from natural materials, such as twigs, branches, leaves and stones!

Get creative and be inspired by nature!

For some natural art ideas, please see the links below:

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activities>

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/create-wild-work-art>

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/wildlifetrusts>



Going Wild!

Explore ways in which you can encourage wildlife to visit and thrive in your garden, by helping to provide food, homes and habitats for a diversity of species.

There are lots of things that you can do. Perhaps build a bug hotel, a bat box, a hedgehog home, make a bird feeder or a bird house. Or, you could create a log pile or a wildflower meadow! The possibilities are endless!

If you can, dedicate a small patch or area of your garden, or otherwise a pot or container, that is just for wildlife! Leave it to go wild and see what grows naturally! Then in the summer, why not take part in a butterfly or wildlife survey and record what butterflies and / or wildlife you find in your wild patch. Compare your findings to the the rest of your garden!

For other ideas and inspiration on how to encourage wildlife in to your garden, please see the links below:

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions>

<https://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-grow-wild-patch>

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/citizen-science>

<https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/>



Plant to Plate

Try growing some fruit and / or vegetables in your garden, and demonstrate how this can be done in an environmentally friendly way. Try and select the best plants and flowers to attract wildlife and pollinating insects in to a vegetable garden.

Show how the produce has been used afterwards. Perhaps try cooking a crumble or making some jam! Or, you could learn about the techniques used to preserve the produce, and have a go yourself!

Please see below some handy tips on growing fruit and / or vegetables in an environmentally friendly way:

<https://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-grow-wildlife-friendly-vegetable-garden>

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=822>



Potty for Wildlife

Use pots and containers to add extra wildlife features in to your garden and attract more wildlife!

Try and select plants that attract pollinators, such as bees and butterflies. You can also create mini-habitats in pots and containers, such as a mini wildflower meadow, a mini alpine habitat or even a pond in a pot!

You don't just have to use pots and containers. Why not plant up other objects, such as an old watering can, an old bucket or an old pair of boots!

Please see below some tips on how you can attract more wildlife in to your garden using pots and containers:

<https://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-create-container-garden-wildlife>

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?PID=1054>



READY – STEADY – GROW!

Super Sunflowers!

Why not grow some sunflowers at home! As well as being great for pollinators, Sunflowers will also bring light and joy during these unprecedented times!

The Winner will be the school with the **TALLEST** Sunflower! This can be grown either at home or in the school garden!

Please see below some tips on growing sunflowers, from the Gardeners' World website:

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/how-to-grow-sunflowers/>



	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	june	july	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
sow												
plant												
flowers												
cut back												

Other activities that can be done from home or at school!

(these are not part of this year's competition)

There are a wealth of wildlife gardening activities and Actions for Wildlife on the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust website. Please see the links below:

Actions for Wildlife:

www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/actions

Wildlife Gardening:

www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife-gardening

Wildlife Watch:

www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activity-sheets

Why not also take part in the **Wild at Home** project, which is currently being run by the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust:

www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/wildathome



Outdoor Learning

Use nature as a tool to learn. Why not take part in some outdoor classroom and / or Forest School sessions.

CultureWood Forest School also has a number of outdoor / nature-related activities that you can take part in. See their Facebook page:

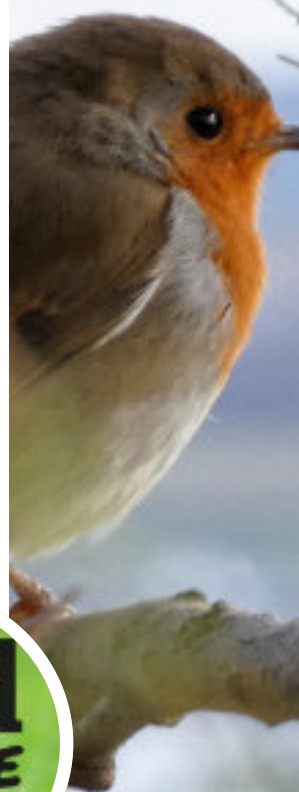
www.facebook.com/CultureWood

Citizen Surveys

Take part in a Citizen Survey to help record wildlife in your local area.

There are lots of surveys to choose from. Please see the link below for some ideas!

<https://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-take-part-citizen-survey>





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