

## Forest School Wild Ideas

Please find below a few suggestions that you may be able to do at home or on a visit to a local wild area.

**At home** Explore in the garden to look for **mini beasts**, can you name them? Record what mini beasts you find and where. Can you take pictures on a phone or ipad?

Make a **bug hotel**.

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Activity/Make-a-simple-bug-or-ladybird-home>

Draw a picture of what you can see in your garden. Try looking at this from **different perspectives**, i.e. At grass eye level, laying on your back looking at the sky or looking down on your garden from the highest part.

Set up a **bird feeding station** to observe which birds visit your garden. Sunflower hearts will attract a variety of birds. If you have a few ends of wool, place them in a feeder for birds to use for nest material. Go to the following for guides or to down load the ap.  
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/>

- Which ones can you recognise?
- Do they come alone, or with friends?
- How many birds can you see that are black, blue, red or yellow?
- Can you identify the birds you can hear singing?

Can you create another **habitat** in your garden to attract wildlife?. A log pile, a pond, a pile of stones, an area of flowering plants (grown from seed). Can you identify the flowers that are already growing in your garden?

**Grow** some of your own **food**.

<https://www.growyourownpotatoes.org.uk/>

<https://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk>

E.g. potatoes, tomatoes, peas, beans, courgettes. Don't forget when they start growing you will have to water these. Do you have a method for collecting water for this?

Collect some **Stones** (small enough to hold in your hand). Use paint or acrylic pens to draw pictures on them. Can you make up a story from the pictures? How many can you pile up before they fall over? Can you put them in order of size, weight? Estimate and then weigh them, were you correct? Collect some **pine cones and conkers** and find which are the heaviest. Can you make a repeating pattern with these?

Go for a local walk and collect a carrier bag of **sticks**.

**Can you make:**

- A stick person, as well as a home and a park for them to play in?
- A magic wand?
- A tall tower with sticks and string?
- 2D shapes and calculate their perimeter?
- Giant 3 D shapes that you can name?
- A frame for a picture?
- A triangular weaving frame?
- A raft for your stick person?

For more ideas have a look at the following sites:

<https://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/actions>

<https://themuddypuddleteacher.co.uk>

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/family-activities>