



BUG HOTEL

An insect hotel, or bug hotel, is a structure created to provide shelter for minibeasts!

On the Estate, we understand that all plants and animals play a vital role in the environment.

It's Up to Us

A Children's
TERRA CARTA
For Nature, People & Planet

The mission of this handout is to enhance and expand your knowledge on bug hotels and the minibeasts that might use them.



Bug Hotels created by pupils at Dumfries House

When building layers onto the hotels, we asked:

“What could be used to give the hotels structural support and attract minibeasts?”

FUN FACTS ABOUT HOW INSECTS LIVE:

- ▶ Not all bees are social. Social insects are insects that live in colonies, most bumblebees, honeybees and ants are examples of social insects. However, many the UK's bee species are solitary, meaning that they do not nest with a big colony but instead nest alone.
- ▶ Many invertebrates hibernate. Many pollinating invertebrates like bees, moths and butterflies run out of pollen and nectar to eat over winter and so will hibernate in safe places. Bug hotels, woodpiles and leaf litter provide safe spaces until warmer weather brings back the flowers on.

TASK 1:

Watch the YouTube video: [How To Make Your Own Bug Hotel - YouTube](#)
On the Princes Foundation YouTube Channel.

Using the information in this video, outline five items that can be used to:

Make hotels stronger:



Attract insects:



NATURAL PEST MANAGEMENT:

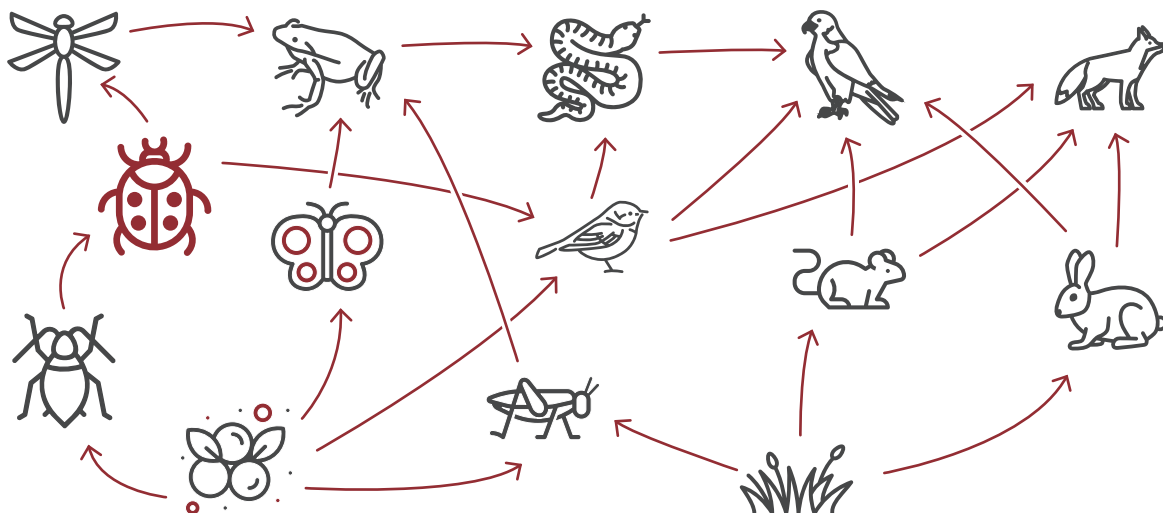
This is a natural method of pest control that makes use of existing food chains where other insects, birds, animals or plants control pests without using chemicals.

FUN FACTS ABOUT BENEFICIAL INSECTS:

- ▶ A third of all food consumed by humans is pollinated by bees.
- ▶ Ladybirds can feed on up to 50 unwanted pests in a single day and is a universal symbol of good luck!
- ▶ The female hoverfly has a trend to lay its white eggs next to aphid colonies which when hatch feed upon the aphids and can wipe out up to 80% within a few days.
- ▶ Ground beetles, soldier beetles and lace wings will pretty much feed on any pest that moves and can kill up to 200 pests in a week alone!
- ▶ Next comes a Parasitic wasp, unlike the wasps we all know about. This type of wasp lays its eggs inside caterpillars or other pest's bodies these eggs then hatch and the wasp larvae kill the pest before it does too much damage.

TASK 2:

Using the paragraph above and woodland food web below, outline what plants and animals would increase, decrease or stay the same if the Ladybird population were to disappear:



TASK 3:

Using one line only, match the insects below to their ideal home.



Butterfly



Solitary Hive



Spider



Tree Branch



Ladybird



Spider Web



Solitary Bee



Logs & Tree Bark

TASK 4:

For the final task, using YouTube videos, like the one linked previously. Create a bug hotel, place it in the desired location, and share your creations on social media using [#DHVirtualClassroom](#)