

The Wildlife Garden Project

Mini Guide to Planting for Wildlife

To help provide a constant source of food for wildlife in your garden, incorporate plants that will flower and fruit at different times of year. Mixed hedgerows are great habitats and food sources: they provide nesting sites and food for birds, food for insects and you might even find hedgehogs, toads or mice sheltering underneath! Plant climbers in your hedgerow such as honeysuckle to attract more species like moths which in turn can attract bats!



Planting a wildflower meadow is a great way to attract an array of insects including important pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Pick an open sunny site, and use a mixture of wildflowers and grasses. Wildflowers love poor soil, so steer clear of the fertiliser and remove all cuttings to your compost bin otherwise they will return nutrients to the soil! You can also let a small

section of your lawn grow wild. Who knows what might pop up!

When looking after your plants, use chemicals sparingly if at all, there are lots of environmentally friendly alternatives such as hand picking caterpillars off your plants, letting the birds eat the slugs and snails (or removing them by hand) and using traps for mice and rats instead of poison. Putting out poison or pest killers means predators can suffer secondary poison. Hedgehogs are a much better slug controller, so attract them to your garden and everyone's a winner!



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