

# An Insect Hotel

If you have a garden, you have probably noticed lots of different creepy crawlies. Some are pests, such as aphids (e.g. greenfly, which suck sap from plants), but some are useful for your garden. For example, lacewing larvae and ladybirds eat aphids, while all kinds of bees and butterflies help to pollinate plants. Some of these useful critters hibernate over winter and need somewhere suitable to do so. Try and keep them in your garden by building them an "Insect Hotel"! Ask an adult to help.

### You will need:

A thick wooden box (no lid needed) drilled with holes of various sizes, to allow the insects access to different parts of the box.

1. Put each of your materials into different compartments of your box, separating them with wooden boards if needed. Pack everything tightly so the insects stay snug.

2. Put your insect hotel somewhere sheltered from the wind and rain and off the ground. To keep out the damp, it is enough to stand it on old bricks.

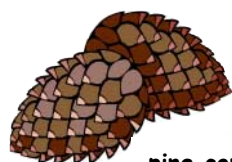
3. Be happy that good garden insects can live in luxury in your "Insect Hotel" for the winter!

**MATERIALS:** *Twigs, sticks, blocks of wood, a brick with holes in, straw, corrugated cardboard, bamboo canes, dry leaves, bark and more....!*

By Jennifer Care



rolled newspapers



pine cones



logs drilled with holes



egg boxes



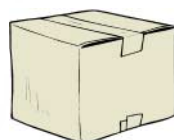
bamboo



tree bark



dried leaves



cardboard



bricks



straw



twigs