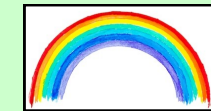


Blackwater Community Fortnight



13th - 23rd July - Community Fortnight. We have joined up with the Cornwall Wildlife Trust to learn about something really important in our local area—hedgehogs! As you know, the hedgehog population is declining in Cornwall. Let's save Britain's most loved creature! Have a go at many of these activities to learn and be proactive about supporting our prickly friends.

Main activity - create your own fact book about Hedgehogs

There is so much to learn about these amazing animals. Can you find out information about them and learn lots of ways to keep them safe?

Follow this link for ideas: <https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/hedgehogs-your-guide-britains-most-loved-creature-and-how?>



Main activity: Raising money for a Bell Tent for school

We all love nature and going out for walks to spot different species. Over the next two weeks, we are going to challenge you to do a number of walks to spot different wildlife around our environment.

The more different types of nature you spot, the more money you can raise!

We would love to purchase a bell tent for our school so then in September, we have an additional space to learn in.

Please get involved!!



Search for Poo!

Hedgehog tracks and signs

Learn how to identify hedgehog droppings and tracks. Hedgehogs can be difficult to detect, but searching for their footprints is a good way of discovering if they are around.

Looking at hedgehog droppings is another good way of seeing if they are around and about. Follow this link for more information: <https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/about-hedgehogs/tracks-and-signs/>



Footprint Tunnel

Make this exciting hedgehog tunnel to find out if hedgehogs are visiting your garden. This is an easy way of recording footprints as they feed!

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/make-a-hedgehog-footprint-tunnel/>

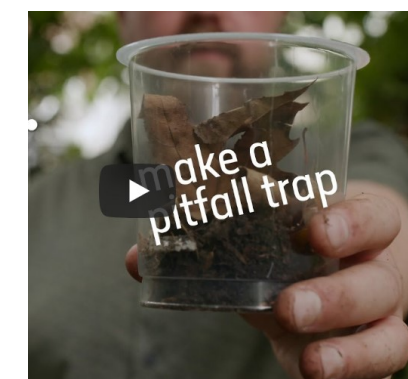
I imagine you won't have all the materials at home so I am sure you can be creative with substitutes!

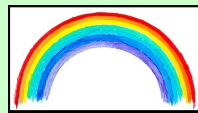


What do Hedgehogs eat?

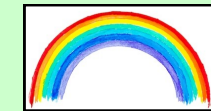
Set a pitfall trap.

A pitfall trap is a simple device used to catch small animals - particularly insects and other invertebrates. It consists of a container buried so that its top is level with the surface of the ground. Leave the trap overnight and see what you have trapped. The animals collected will be the type of animals and insects that hedgehogs eat! <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/how-to-make-pitfall-trap-to-catch-insects.html>





Blackwater Community Fortnight



How can we help our hedgehogs?

Link your gardens

Hedgehogs need to be free and roam. To help hedgehogs pass freely through your garden is the most important thing you can do to help them! Follow this link to work out how:

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/link-your-garden/>



Is your garden Hedgehog friendly?

Creating a **log pile** for hedgehogs creates a safe, secure site for breeding or hibernating. Collect any old dead wood from your garden and pile up in a quiet undisturbed corner. Compost heaps, leaf piles and ponds are also great habitats for hedgehogs.

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/helpful-garden-features/>



Can you build a hedgehog house?

Look at these pictures below for inspiration, hedgehogs love all sorts! <https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/hedgehog-homes/>



Can you build a mini pond?

Even a small pond can be home to an interesting range of wildlife which can then be a feeding ground for hedgehogs. You can use a washing up bowl, disused sink or a large plant pot, it doesn't have to be big. Just make sure your creatures can get in and out! <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-create-mini-pond>



Create some hedgehog art to show your love of these animals!

Here are some ideas to spark your interest . .



A special **hedgehog** thank you to Cheryl Marriott; a parent at Blackwater and Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Head of Conservation.

She has given us lots of hints, tips and ideas to help use create this community week. We hope to continue to support this charity in the future as we all know how important caring for the environment is.

