

## WEEK 4: SHELTER

### WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Twigs and sticks
- String or yarn
- Scissors
- Planks of wood or logs
- Bricks
- Old plant pots
- Natural materials (moss, straw, leaves)
- Recycled corrugated cardboard



### ACTIVITY 1: MAKE AN OUTDOOR SPIDER WEB

- 1) Start by collecting some long twigs or sticks from outside. The straighter the better! Be careful to only take the ones that you find already laying dead on the ground - you don't want to be taking fresh ones from living trees!
- 2) Position your sticks on a flat surface so that they are laying on top of each other to form the frame of the web. You can use as many as you like for this. Wrap the end of your string around the middle several times in different directions to help hold all of the twigs or sticks together. Is it strong?
- 3) Then unwind the string over and behind each twig or stick, going around in circles, until you have created a web pattern. Now it's time to decorate!
- 4) Once it's finished, hang it up outside and check on it regularly to count how many spiders are living on it! Are any other small creatures using it too?

## ACTIVITY 2: BUILD A BUG HOTEL

- 1) Pick a suitable location for your hotel - they are best built on hard, sturdy surfaces like concrete or pavement. The ground should be flat for stability!
- 2) Build the frame of your hotel. You don't want to build the structure too high, so aim to stack your materials to about one metre. Lay the foundation of the hotel - use bricks to make a H shape on the ground.
- 3) Lay some planks of wood, including a brick layer in between each wood layer to create gaps to put your natural materials. Make sure that the layers are steady and don't wobble or tip over.
- 4) Begin to fill the gaps between your layers with your natural materials. It's good to use a range of different materials, as each one will support different insects and species. Finally, make a sign for your bug hotel!



### TOP TIPS

- Ask an adult to drill some holes into your planks of wood or logs - this will attract solitary bees.
- Create smaller sections in the layers with dried leaves, deadwood and bark - this will attract woodlice, ladybirds, aphids and spiders.

### STAY IN TOUCH:



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We would love to see what you've got up to on your Wild Days adventures. Send us pictures, stories and videos on social media using the #WildDays