

# people's trust for endangered species

## Essential information

### Age range:

Key Stage 1 and 2

### Group size:

Whole class

### Time needed:

1 hour to build the beetle tower block. Allow time for gathering material.

### Curriculum links:

Science Units: 6A Interdependence and adaptation; 4B Habitats, 2B Plants and animals in the local environment ; 2C Variation. Citizenship Units: 06 Developing our school grounds; 01 Taking part - developing skills of communication and participation

### Setting:

Outside in school grounds

### Contact us:

For enquiries regarding the activity sheets , please contact Emily Jones on:  
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020 7498 4533  
www.ptes.org

For enquiries regarding stag beetle biology and ecology, please contact Deborah Harvey on:  
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## Bug tower block workshop- leader's notes

### Background to activity

In this workshop children will learn what type of places different invertebrates – including insects and in particular beetles and spiders – live in.

### Materials needed

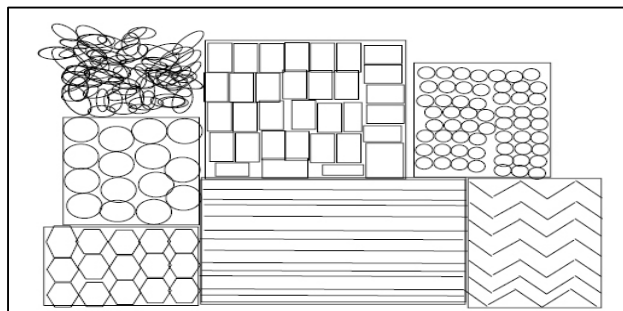
- Bricks, flat bits of wood, logs, twigs, leaves, bamboo canes, pebbles
- A quiet corner of the school grounds to build the tower block in.

### Running the activity

Get the children to gather leaves, pebbles, twigs from around the school grounds. The teacher will need to arrange several bricks, old pallets or pieces of plywood, bamboo canes cut to about 30cm.

Put down four bricks at four corners to form the base of your beetle tower block and lay a pallet or sheet of plywood on top. Fill the gaps underneath with leaves or canes or densely packed twigs. On top of the plywood or pallet put another four bricks in each corner and repeat the process. Use whatever materials the children can find.

The class can build one large tower block or several smaller ones in different parts of the grounds using different materials.



### **Extension activities**

- If several tower blocks have been created check them regularly to see what different creatures prefer what types of material to hide and feed in.
- Try creating block stacks (see below) and see if different creatures use the tower block. If you are lucky you may get frogs, newts, hedgehogs, mice and voles using the ground floor of the tower if they are around.