

Essential information

Age range:

All ages

Group size:

1 class split into smaller groups of up to 4

Time needed:

approx.1 hour, follow up sessions no time limit

Curriculum links:

Science Units: 2b Plants and animals in the local environment, 2c Variation, 4b Habitats, 5b Life cycles, 6a Interdependence and adaptation, also Art units

Setting:

Outdoors and Classroom

Contact us:

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Hedgehog Hazards – leader's notes

Background to activity

Children will complete a suitability survey of the school grounds/local area from a hedgehog's point of view. They will then decide how they would improve the area for wildlife.

Materials needed

- Clipboard, pencil and copy of the Hedgehog Hazards worksheet per group

Running the activity

In supervised groups explore the school grounds or a local green space, and write down any features that could harm or hinder a hedgehog and how dangerous they could be. Illustrations may help. Back in the classroom discuss and draw up the findings, and find a solution for each problem, but don't forget to consider other wild animals and humans.

In future sessions each group should put one of their solutions into action.

Extension activities

- After all the follow up sessions repeat the survey but note all the positive features, and list what other animals may benefit from the work carried out.
- Design signs/ posters that could be placed around the area to remind people to be hedgehog friendly. Make it trickier by using only pictures and no words.