

## Hedgehog Homes – leader's notes

### Essential information

**Age range:**

All ages

**Group size:**

No max, but smaller groups of up to 5 for each session

**Time needed:**

No time limit as on-going project

**Curriculum links:**

Science Units: 2b Plants and animals in the local environment, 4b Habitats, 4c Keeping warm, 5b Life cycles, 6a Interdependence and adaptation, also Design and Technology and ICT units

**Setting:**

Classroom and Outdoors

**Contact us:**

[emily.jones@ptes.org](mailto:emily.jones@ptes.org)

020 7498 4533

[www.ptes.org](http://www.ptes.org)

**Background to activity**

During this activity the class will learn about hedgehogs' homes and their requirements, and choose and make a hedgehog home most suitable for the school grounds.

**Materials needed**

- Hedgehog Homes worksheet (provided by Hedgehog Street project with designs as recommended by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society)
- Various equipment and materials depending on chosen design

**Running the activity**

After learning about hibernation and hedgehogs' life cycle, use the Hedgehog Homes worksheet to start a discussion as to which Hedgehog Home they would like to build. Visit the forum at [www.hedgehogstreet.org](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org) to view and get involved in conversations about hedgehog homes. *Hedgehog Street* is a joint project between People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS). Pupils may need to factor in time, space, money, etc. Once decided follow up sessions should be arranged with smaller groups to build and monitor the chosen hedgehog home.

NB Please do not disturb hibernating or nesting hedgehogs. Monitoring methods could include cameras, looking for tracks and signs such as poo, eaten food, nesting materials etc.

**Extension activities**

- Try a number of different types of hedgehog homes, natural and man-made, and compare activity.
- Present the project, from planning to conclusions, to the rest of the school in an assembly.