

Healthy hedgehog dinners – leader's notes

people's
trust for
endangered
species

Bringing the wild back to life

Essential information

Age range: All ages

Group size: 1 class split into smaller groups of up to 4

Time needed: Approx 2hrs but can be split up

Curriculum links:

Science : Yr 1 Animals

Yr 2 Living things and their habitats, Animals,

Yr 3 Animals,

Yr 4 Living things and their habitats, Animals,

Yr 6 Living things and their habitats.

Also links to Mathematics and Design and Technology units

Setting: Classroom and Outdoors

Contact us:

enquiries@ptes.org

020 7498 4533

www.ptes.org

Background to activity

Children will learn about the diet of a hedgehog, make and put out hedgehog food in the school grounds and at home, and record their observations.

Materials needed

- ▶ See list of food items on Healthy Hedgehog Dinners worksheet
- ▶ Scales
- ▶ Spoons
- ▶ Shallow bowls
- ▶ Clipboards, paper, pencils, camera optional
- ▶ Copies of the Healthy Hedgehog Dinners advice note and letter signed by yourself

Running the activity

Discuss with the children what a hedgehog eats in the wild, and when hedgehogs may need extra food ie when their natural prey is unavailable. Split the class into small groups to weigh out and dish up some of the ingredients as on the worksheet. Wash hands after activity. Once completed explore the school grounds to decide where best to put out the dishes of hedgehog food. This can be at multiple locations. Record your observations of the chosen area on paper/camera such as habitat features, other wildlife, access points, noise levels. Return the following day to see how much of the food has been eaten, and look for signs of wildlife activity. Record results and discuss which site was best. Children can also do the same activity at home using a copy of the worksheet/advice letter (printed double sided) for parents.

Extension activities

- ▶ Design a fox proof hedgehog feeding station. A few examples can be seen at www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/feed-hedgehogs/

