



How to create a perfect 'Nature Garden'

Which animals can benefit from a nature garden?

Butterflies Bees Dragonflies Beetles Birds Bats Hedgehogs
Frogs Toads and lots more!

What can I add to my garden to help these animals?

Here is a basic check list for a perfect nature garden.



Flowers will attract all nectar drinkers and pollinators. They will also add beautiful colour to your garden.

Some British butterflies lay their eggs on long grasses.

A must for frogs and toads! Don't forget a bird bath.

Perfect home for lots of minibeasts.



Trees allow birds to nest in your garden.

Hedgerows, rather than fences provide protection and corridors to other gardens.

These will attract moths to your garden. Which in turn becomes a bats paradise!

No need to buy peat if we can recycle our green bin waste!

A great way to attract our native birds.

Flowers for Butterflies

The best thing to attract insects, particularly butterflies are flowers. Butterflies visit flowers in search of nectar. Whilst they drink they are also pollinating each and every plant they land on. Butterflies are great gardeners!

WHAT'S BEST?	WHY?
Blue, purple, pink and yellow flowers.	Butterflies can only see in violet, blue, green and yellow.
Tubular and flat topped flowers.	Butterflies have a long straw like mouth part called a proboscis. Tubular flowers are easiest to drink from. Flat topped flowers are easy to sit on whilst feeding.
Group your flowers.	Butterflies smell using their antenna so groups of flowers are easier to locate.
Flowers that will bloom throughout Spring, Summer and Autumn.	Butterflies are active from early spring until late autumn. Keep your garden filled with flowers. Use wild flower seeds or plant specific plants (List Overleaf)
Caterpillar 'food plants'.	In order to see our beautiful native butterflies, we need to plant caterpillar food plants as well. (List overleaf)

DID YOU KNOW? We sell Wild Flower Seeds, Insect Houses and Bird Feeders in our Nature Inspired Gift Shop.



Best Nectar Flowers for Butterflies

Key = **Very Important** Flowers in Autumn Good for Bees

Spring

Bluebells
Bugle
Candytuft
Forget me not
Heather
Lavender
Lilac
Ox eye Daisy
Primrose
Sweet William



Sweet Rocket
Thyme
Violet



Summer

Buddleia (Butterfly Bush)
Catmint
Common Valerian
Cornflower
Evening Primrose
French Marigold
Globe Thistle

Honey Suckle
Hyssop
Knapweed
Marjoram
Michaelmas Daisy
Purple Loosestrife
Scabious
Sunflowers
Autumn
Ice Plant
Ivy



Food Plants for our most common British caterpillars

Stinging Nettles	Red Admiral Small Tortoiseshell Painted Lady Peacock
Thistles	Painted Lady
Nasturtiums Cabbage Family	Large White Small White
Lady's Smock Honesty Garlic Mustard	Orange Tips Green Veined White
Buckthorn	Brimstone



Bee-friendly our Bee-utiful Bees with a Bee and Bee

Solitary Bees do not live in hives. They prefer to make their own nests and lay their eggs inside small tunnels instead.

Use bamboo or drill holes into old logs, put as many as you can fit into a wooden box or old bird house.

If you don't have the time to make one, you can always buy one!



BUILD A BUG HOTEL

Do you have any of these items you can offer for a 5★ bug hotel?

- * Old or broken flower pots
- * Dried grass
- * Old logs and twigs
- * Old Bricks
- * Plastic Bottles and Cardboard
- * Unwanted tiles or slate
- * Pallets (if you don't have pallets give us a ring—we might have a few we can give to you)



Bugs hotels are not about clean bedding and spas! The bugs will LOVE it no matter how messy it looks to us.

.....AND FINALLY

DO

- Enjoy your garden
- Relax and see what animals and insects you have been able to attract
- Feed the birds
- Take part in the 'Big Butterfly Count' from mid July– mid August



DON'T

- Use chemical pesticides, instead use biological methods
- Create complete barriers in your garden - we need wildlife to be able to pass through
- Leave milk and bread out for hedgehogs—the best thing for them is cat or dog food.

