

CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

INSECTS CAN'T DO MUCH TO HELP

Nature & Biodiversity
Encouraging wildlife into our gardens and green spaces is great for the health of the planet. There are so many simple things we can do to.

LET'S GO WILD

Here are five simple things that can help to encourage bees and other wildlife into a garden or local green space.

Leave a patch of grass unmown in your garden, then wait...

Stop using chemicals in the garden.

Count the number of different types of plants and grasses that come up.

Have fun pulling up the weeds by hand - or better - still leave them there - they encourage bees and other pollinating insects to visit.

Create a small pond to encourage water wildlife.

When its established, look to see if the pond has water- boatmen, water snails and pond skaters. What else can you spot?

Start a compost heap, putting in 'greens' and 'browns' to get a good mix.

After a while the compost heap will attract lots of minibeasts like worms, beetles and millipedes. Write down the different types that you see.

2.

MAKE A PLEDGE

Ask 5 people you know to each make a pledge to do one of the activities from the first activity.

The five people I'm going to ask to make a pledge are:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Design a simple pledge card and give each person one for them to write on which activity they will do.

How long will you wait before you go back to visit each persons garden to see how they have got on?

Make yourself a little recording book from scrap (reuse) paper, to write down all the different types wildlife - both plants and animals - that you find in each person's garden.

3.

PLANT A TREE

Planting trees is an excellent way of offsetting some of the CO2 that our day-to-day activities produce.

*Here are some hints to help you:

SWITCH: Switch to the search engine Ecosia on your computer. Their servers run on renewable energy. Around every 45 searches they plant another tree for the good of the planet!

PICK UP AND PLANT: Pick up acorns, conkers, and other seeds from the ground in Autumn and pop them into pots. Watch them grow then transplant into the ground when they are sturdy enough.

TRANSPLANT: Ask any family or neighbours if they have any saplings that are growing in the wrong place. Carefully dig them up and transplant them to somewhere more suitable.

JOIN A SCHEME: Join a local tree planting scheme that needs volunteers to go and plant little saplings in agreed places where the trees can grow and flourish.

Can you think of three different ways you could plant a tree? See below for hints*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Which way will you choose?