

Go Potty For Wildlife

 10 minutes- 1 hour

 Easy

 Low



A guide to #gopottyforwildlife, an action for any space to help insects and pollinators.

Why?

Pots and containers are a great way of to provide food and shelter to insects and pollinators in areas where there might not be any other wildlife such a driveway or outside the front door. They are also perfect for small gardens, patios or spaces like window ledges and balconies.

You don't just have to plant for wildlife, why not try growing some grub for you too. Herbs, in particular, make good container plants and attract lots of wildlife, as well as being useful in the kitchen.

What do I need?

An upcycled pot, the more creative the better. Why not use an old pair of wellie boots, a cracked teapot or even find an old tyre and use it as a container. Just one pot or several - it is up to you! Just make sure to use peat free compost.

You can use seeds or bulbs, take a clipping from a neighbour, or buy plants and flowers, just don't forget to make sure they are pesticide free to encourage bees and insects.



When?

In Spring try planting summer flowering bulbs such as dahlias and lillies. You might not see the results straight away, but September is a great time to plant some seeds ready to see your hard work pay off with some beautiful blooms in Spring.

Try and chose a selection of plants that grow at different times of year, such as winter heathers, which are a lifeline for bumblebees and solitary bees, which do not store food and emerge in mild spells in winter and early spring.

Get going and follow these simple steps:

Step 1: Pick your pot. The more creative the better.

Step 2: Fill your pot with peat free compost.

Step 3: Chose your seeds, bulbs or plants.

Step 4: Water them and watch them grow.

Step 5: Tell your neighbours all about it!

Download our free sign to inspire others to follow your lead and help to feed our bees or yourself!

Best plants for insects

Provide for bees, butterflies and other insects all year round by planting shrubs and plants that flower at different times of the year.

Spring	Summer	Autumn	Key
Wallflowers 	Borage  	Heather   	 Great for honeybees
Hawthorn 	Fennel 	Carrots 	 Great for bumblebees
Dandelion  	Lavender  	Dahlia  	 Great for butterflies
Sweet William 	Rosemary  	Mint  	 Great for other insects
Aubretia  	Cornflower   	Marjoram  	 Great for a balcony or plant pot
Lungwort 	Honeysuckle  	Yarrow  	
Sweet Alyssum  	Buddleia 	Fennel 	
Cow parsley 	Poppy  	Ivy   	
	Brambles 	Michaelmas daisy 	
	Cosmos  		
	Cow parsley 		
	Field scabious 		