

## Activity 3 – Modelling from found and recycled materials

### Make a bug hotel

#### What to do

- Explain the task clearly. Insects like to hide in small, dry sheltered places from the weather and predators. This can be gaps in walls, holes in trees, piles of dry leaves. These places are becoming less common so we can help by making a bug hotel.
- Collect the materials – natural materials can be collected during a walk in the park
- Talk about ways to fill the container to make small nooks and crannies for insects to shelter in
- Explore packing the container with the found materials.
- Place or hang up your hotel in an outdoor space ready for the first guests to arrive

#### What you need

Something to provide the shell of the hotel:  
a card tube/kitchen roll insert, cut down milk carton, card coffee cup or plant pot  
Thin twigs, sticks, dry leaves, pinecones, moss, bark, dead hollow stems  
String or thread to suspend the finished hotel from



#### Extension

Set a challenge – e.g. can you create spaces of different sizes for different insects? Can you make a hotel that can hang from a tree/fit in the hedge/be waterproof?

Find out what animals might be taking up residence by looking at this link together:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/09/how-to-build-a-bug-hotel/>

Look at larger bug hotels online

<http://www.wildwestend.london/stories-feed/2017/4/26/insect-hotel>

#### Questions to ask

How will you stop the parts from falling out?

What will make the hotel waterproof?

Where could we put it? What would be a good place?

How can we keep it light enough to sit on our hedge/stop it blowing away?

How can we design it so it will hang on our fence?