

Hedgehog Hero's

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Whitworth
Town Council

What are Hedgehog's?

- Hedgehogs are small, spiky mammals. Their babies are called hoglets.
- Hedgehogs have hard spines on their backs, sides and heads. They don't have spines on their faces, chest or legs.
- Did you know? Hedgehogs also have a very little tail.





What do Hedgehog's eat?

Hedgehogs are often called the Gardener's Friend because they eat slugs and beetles. These creatures damage plants so gardeners are happy to see hedgehogs in their garden.

Hedgehogs also eat earthworms, but if you wanted to feed a hedgehog in your garden, they also like cat food or dog food!

Never give a hedgehog milk. They cannot digest it properly so they can end up very poorly.

What do they do?

Hedgehogs are very busy animals. They can visit many gardens in one night!

They are also quite nosy. They have been known to sometimes get their heads stuck in empty yoghurt pots and tins when having a look inside!

If hedgehogs feel frightened, they will roll into a ball so that their spikes will stop any enemies attacking them.





Where do they live?

Hedgehogs can be found in all sorts of places. They live in parks, gardens and grassy areas, but also along railway tracks and cemeteries.

Hedgehogs hibernate between November and March. This means they sleep during the winter to keep warm.

They like to sleep in large piles of dry leaves, so be careful when moving piles of leaves. But don't wake up a sleeping hedgehog!

What is dangerous for hedgehogs?

Hedgehogs often need help to stay safe in gardens. Here are some things that are dangerous for hedgehogs, and how you can help to keep them safe:

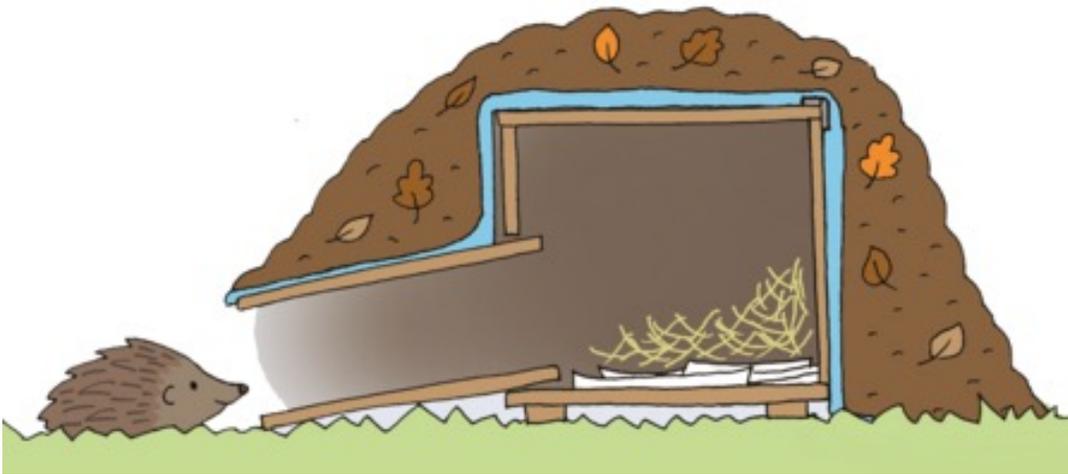
- Keep ponds covered with netting so that a hedgehog doesn't fall in.
- Don't use slug pellets to kill the slugs. These will poison the hedgehogs too.
- Keep drains covered so that a wandering hedgehog doesn't get stuck in them.



What can you do to help hedgehogs?

You can create a hedgehog areas in your gardens, such as:

- Hedgehog hotels
- Gaps in fencing to allow them to hunt for food
- Create leaf, log or compost piles for them to hibernate in



Quiz!

WHOSE BEEN LISTENING?



Hedgehog Poster Competition!

We would like you guys to take back all the information you've learnt today and create a poster!

- There will be 10 winners per school
- The winners will get a prize
- The winners' posters will be put up around Whitworth and put in the Whitworth Magazine to tell others how to look after hedgehogs too!





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Thank You!

We hope you learned something today and are motivated to help hedgehogs!

Good luck to all those taking part in the competition!

