

BACKYARD BUG HOUSE

Bugs are super interesting – to kids and adults! They are also a very important part of our ecosystem. Building a bug house will provide shelter for these tiny creatures, and even invite beneficial garden bugs to take up residence in your garden!

Your kids will love visiting the bug house and observing their little friends. This will be a great opportunity to talk with them about biodiversity!



SUGGESTED MATERIALS:

Different bugs like different environments, so go for a variety of materials.

- Empty milk carton or shoe box

NATURAL ELEMENTS

- Sticks/twigs/bark
- Pinecones
- Moss
- Stones
- Leaves
- Straw/hay/dried grasses

NOOKS & CRANNIES

- Toilet paper rolls
- Straws cut at different lengths
- Drilled pieces of wood

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1** If you're using a milk carton, cut out one of the panels so there is a large hole.

Optional: paint the outside of the box and seal it with a waterproof paint sealer after it dries.

- 2** **Begin to fill your house!**

- Add toilet paper rolls; fill some with grasses.
- Add a layer of moss and a corner with stones.
- Stick in some straws, pinecones, and other materials.

- 3** **When your house is full, find a place outside to put it.**

The spot you choose shouldn't be too windy, and if you can, have it face south or south east to soak up some sun. You can even pile some bark and stones around the bottom to attract ground-dwelling creatures!