

# Ideas to get you started



## Action for Insects Session 6 — Resource 1

**TOP TIP:** Sign up to take Action for Insects ([www.wildlifetrusts.org/take-action-insects](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/take-action-insects)) to get individual and community guides to action. These are full of great ideas to create insect homes, stop the unnecessary use of pesticides, who to influence for change and much more...

- Action plan for insects — develop your own / school action plan. Run a small forum of friends and adults to have a shared action plan to include: task(s); what needs to be done; who; what we need; who can we ask for help. Think about the BIG three:
  1. creating more insect homes (and stopping the use of peat-based compost, which is destroying insect homes!);
  2. connecting 'habitats' to help insects move around; and
  3. stopping the unnecessary use of chemicals that harm insects.
- Carry out a case study of a project or area that has attracted more insects as a result of work —bee homes/ log piles/ school grounds/ friend/local project.
- Prepare a 'home for sale' pack about an insect's home to encourage buyers (as you would do a house) and add in why the insect is no longer around and why. What makes this home special /what is needed for it to live here?
- Research and compile a compendium of projects that might have helped insects and created/demonstrated more biodiversity — small things like bee hotels/ log piles/ dead wood; to bigger projects like making areas of your community more wild or stopping the unnecessary use of harmful chemicals.
- Choose one insect and work out how to make your school or community a great place for it to live. Can you put what you have learned into action?
- Write, create a poster, audio recording or film telling a story about taking action —interview people to ask them about why, what and how they did — what was the result?
- Let the world know about good work for insects — write a press release, Twitter, Instagram or Facebook post. Think about where you would send it, who you want to send it to, how to make the story interesting.
- Create a landscape design plan, which you can submit to a 'planning authority' for an 'new home and or housing estate for insects'. Run a school town or parish council style meeting to decide if the project should go ahead.
- Develop wording for a petition or campaign to help insects in your community.
- Carry out observation and interviews on your peers doing activities as part of this campaign. What were WOW moments? Send to your Wildlife Trust or to [watch@wildlifetrusts.org](mailto:watch@wildlifetrusts.org).
- Create a miniature landscape for insects — mark the way with lolly stick flags that mark features; create a map and passport; take others on a journey to visit!
- Think about what you can do in your own home. From window boxes and pots, to log piles by the door... and share these with the class. Each student could make a commitment as to the action they are going to take and make it into a sign, placard or colourful piece of art.
- Hold an 'insect careers fair' at school. Pick jobs that insects do and think about similar jobs that people do...
- Hold a B'Oscars (Bug Oscars) awards ceremony. What is the best leading insect? Best supporting? Most deadly? Most colourful? etc. Work together to create categories and shortlists.
- Get involved in national 'counts' such as Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count or create your own school annual creature count event to track what impact you are having for insects.
- Give yourself a Certificate! Download our Action For Insects Certificate, fill it out and post it in your school. You will be telling others that you care about insects and what you are doing to make a difference. Take a picture and share it to spread the word!

Share what you are doing using #ActionForInsects and send us your letters, pictures, and stories to [watch@wildlifetrusts.org](mailto:watch@wildlifetrusts.org).