

Minibeast hotel



What you need:

- Card tube (toilet roll centre)
- Sticks and other fallen natural materials, such as dead leaves and seed shells

Have a go at colouring this spring colouring sheet on page 3...how many animals can you find? Will your animals be camouflaged or easy to spot?



Step 1

Collect sticks from the floor and other fallen natural objects.



Step 2

Fill the tube with sticks, making sure they are level with the front of the tube. Fill in the gaps with the other objects that you have found.



Step 3

Find somewhere sheltered from the rain in your garden to put your minibeast hotel and wait for you guests to arrive!

Step 4

Keep visiting your minibeast hotel and watch. Which minibeasts have moved in?



Sight facts



Animals see differently from humans. Not many see the world as we do. They use sight to notice their world and to help them hunt or avoid danger and find a mate.

Trees and other plants need to be able to sense and react to sunlight to survive, it is essential for producing their own food through photosynthesis.

Look at a crowded group of trees, they are unlikely to all be growing straight upwards. Instead the tree reacts by growing at an angle out towards the light.



Wood mice, bank voles and shrews all have ultraviolet wee that they can see to follow their tracks and pathways in the dark.



The eye of a fly contains 3,000 lenses resulting in super eyesight. They can perceive movement up to 200 frames per second. We see 60 frames a second.



A squirrel can see very clearly what's in front of it, next to it, above and below it at the same time without moving its head.



Rabbits can see that something is sneaking up from pretty much any angle because they have eyes on the side of their head. However, this means that they cannot judge how far away the predator is.



A dragonfly's eyes can see blue light easily which makes the sky appear very bright. Even the tiniest insect casts a dark silhouette. It can spot and track an object and decide whether it is prey in 500ths of a second.



A buzzard can see 8-10 times farther than we can and spot its prey from 3 km away.



Sight is such an important sense for birds that their eyes take up more space in the skull than their brain.

