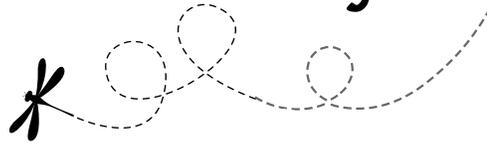


# Build a Bug Hotel



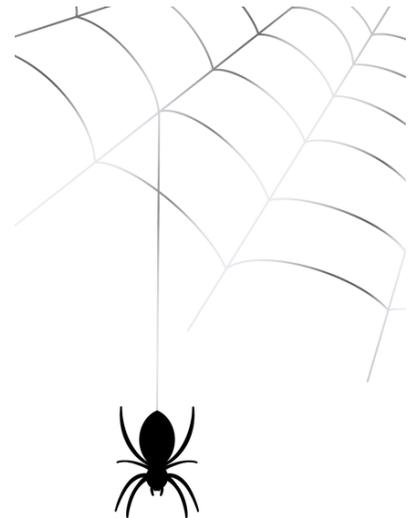
You will need a parent or trusted adult to help you with this activity !

A bug hotel, also called an insect hotel, is a wooden structure designed to provide a safe and cozy shelter for insects.

Bug hotels are a great addition to your garden. They attract and protect bugs that keep your plants healthy. They also provide a fun way to increase biodiversity right in your backyard or community garden!

Here's what you'll need:

- Toilet paper rolls
- Shoe box (without lid) or milk carton
- Paint brushes
- Acrylic paint- insects are attracted to white, yellow and orange
- Waterproof sealer
- Black dot stickers or black paint
- Large paper straws or rolled-up pieces of paper
- Moss
- Dried grass
- Twigs
- Leaves
- Stones
- Rolled paper
- Natural pine cones (optional)
- Craft knife (optional)



Let's Start Building!

1. Paint the outside of the shoe box white, yellow, or orange, or you can totally get creative and use all the colors. Set aside to dry. If you are using a milk carton, cut a large opening on one side using the craft knife, then paint.
2. Decorate with black dot stickers or paint with black paint so that it looks like a ladybug.
3. Seal the paint with waterproof sealer, especially if your bug hotel will be placed outside where it can get wet.
4. Place toilet paper rolls into shoe box (as shown in the picture on the next page)
5. Start by adding some dried grass or moss around the sides of the rolls and in the back of the shoe box.



6. Continue to fill in the spaces around the rolls with rocks, dried grass, sticks, and pine cones or moss so that the rolls won't fall out of the box.

7. Then start to fill each toilet paper roll. Fill one with moss, another with sticks, another with rolled up pieces of paper, another with more moss, another with pine cones, and another with cut paper straws. Fill another with twigs. Fill another with pebbles.

8. Your hotel will need a sign. You can make a sign out of cardboard reading BUG HOTEL! or BUGS WELCOME! or [Add your name]'s BUG HOTEL!

9. Place it outside and watch ants, ladybugs and spiders move in !



Completed Bug Hotel. [www.happytoddlerplaytime.com](http://www.happytoddlerplaytime.com)