

BUILD an INSECT HOTEL

and help out bugs like Doug!



PURPOSE:

Insect hotels provide spaces for a variety of insects to shelter, deposit their eggs, and find prey.

Some of the insects attracted to insect hotels are solitary bees and wasps, who do not live in colonies.

These insects, and others like beetles and moths, are pollinators. They provide essential plant pollination services in our gardens and natural spaces.

They help us grow tasty vegetables and fruits and maintain our plant communities.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pollinators are facing a crisis around the globe.

Their populations are declining due to factors like disease, insecticides, and the changing climate.

By building an insect hotel for your yard, you can help protect pollinators that live in your local area.

Doug and his friends will thank you!

CONSTRUCTION:

An adult can help you construct your insect hotel. Insect hotels can be constructed in lots of ways.

One way, pictured here, is to find or build a simple wooden box and create compartments, or different spaces, within the box

Then, fill the compartments with materials like bamboo, wood (with holes drilled in it), pinecones, straw, and bark. You can also use bricks, old tiles, and other recycled materials.

Providing a range of nesting materials and holes of different sizes will allow many different insects to visit your insect hotel.

BUILD A SIMPLE WOODEN BOX



FILL THE COMPARTMENTS WITH MATERIALS



You can make a giant insect hotel or a small one. You can paint the outside or leave it natural. It's up to you! There are many ideas online for inspiration.

When you are done, attach your insect hotel to a tree or fence or place it in a warm spot in your yard.

TIP:

To attract insects native to your area, find out what host plants these insects prefer and plant some nearby.

Share this idea with classmates, friends, or neighbours. Perhaps you can organize an insect hotel for your school or local park, too.