

Hedgehog Boxes



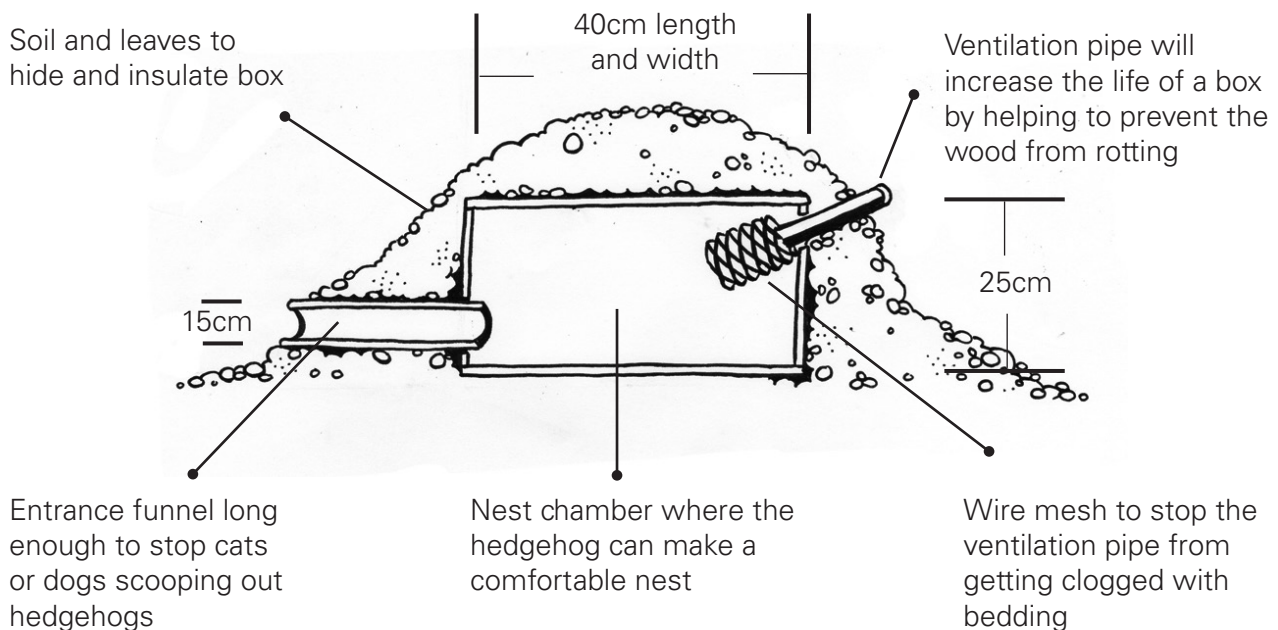
Images by: Elizabeth Dack

Hedgehogs should be seen as welcome visitors to your school grounds. They are useful pest controllers, eating slugs and snails amongst other things. They are nocturnal creatures so, if you want to see one, you will have to wait until dusk. Hedgehogs can be encouraged into school grounds if the habitat provides suitable nesting sites and food.

Hedgehogs make nests for breeding, sleeping and hibernating. They choose sites where they hope to remain warm, dry and undisturbed. Dry leaves, grass, straw and other vegetation are natural choices for nesting materials.

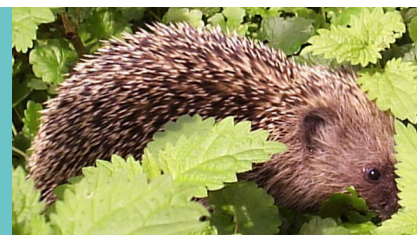
Creating Hedgehog Boxes

- Use timber at least 2cm thick to provide good insulation and avoid warping. Try and use wood from sustainably managed woodlands if possible.
- If younger pupils will be constructing the boxes, pre-saw the wood and allow them to nail the pieces together.



Facts

- Hedgehogs can be seriously injured by getting tangled in sports nets. Be sure to take down or roll any nets after use.
- Adult hedgehogs each have about 6,000 spines.



Saving **Norfolk's Wildlife** for the Future