

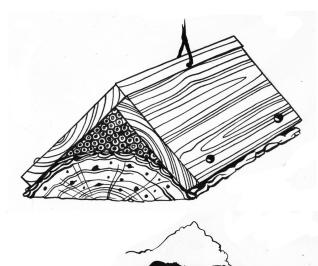
Bug boxes provide snug, safe places for insects to hibernate. They are especially good for ladybirds and lacewings, two very important species that eat aphids. Solitary bees may also use the boxes. Constructing bug boxes can be an exciting and relatively simple project for pupils.

Lacewings and Ladybirds

- Using timber at least 1.5cm thick, cut 2 pieces of equal length and nail them together at a right angle to form an 'L' shape for the roof.
- Use a slice of natural log at the base of the box, drill some different sized holes into the log and fix this to the roof.
- Fill the gap in the centre with dried hollow stems, such as those of cow parsley.
 Alternatively, use reed stems or bamboo canes.
- Fix these off the ground.



- Fill a tin can or glass jar with lengths of hollow stems, reed or bamboo.
- Partially bury in a bank of soil.





Fact

 You can buy special substances to attract ladybirds and lacewings and encourage them to take up residence in your bug box.







