

RSPCA  ×  **YOUTH  
WITHOUT  
LIMITS**

# DofE workbook



## VOLUNTEERING SECTION

**Name:**

**eDofE ID:**

**Assessor's name:**

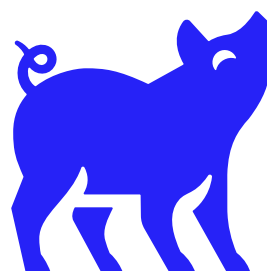
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# WELCOME

Congratulations on working towards your Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award – and thank you for looking into volunteering with the RSPCA.

This workbook is for young people undertaking the Volunteering section of their Awards.

The tasks offer a variety of ways to learn more about the work of the RSPCA and – even more importantly – to actively create a better world for animals.

There's lots of choice and you can be very flexible in the type of activity you choose, the level of difficulty, and how long it takes to complete.

With a mix of research, advocacy, community engagement and practical activities, you'll gain all sorts of skills by volunteering with us for your DofE.

New skills include:

- leading and organising others
- thinking critically and influencing stakeholders
- investigating topics and educating others
- practically making animals' lives better.



## THE RSPCA AND YOU

We were founded in 1824 – that's two centuries of working hard to improve the lives of every kind of animal, including pets, farm animals, wildlife, and animals used in research and testing. We've helped change laws and the way people think about animals, how they treat them, and how we can all live together. We were the very first animal welfare organisation and inspired the founding of many others around the world. And we're just as relevant and inspirational today.

But we can't do this alone – and so we love working with all sorts of people to change animals' lives for the better. By volunteering with us and taking on the tasks that appeal to you, you'll be making a very real difference to animal welfare.



## CHOOSING YOUR TASKS

There are 15 tasks in this booklet. Some are broken down into smaller tasks and some give you a choice of activity. There's one seasonal task that has a winter or summer option.

You'll need to decide whether to complete 13 hours' worth of tasks across three months of volunteering, or 26 hours across six months.

For each task we've marked up the number of hours it's likely to take you to complete it. This means you can choose tasks you're interested in and add up the hours until you've reached your target. You can also choose by subject matter, type of activity, level of difficulty, and accessibility. For some of the tasks you'll need help from your parent or carer.

**The difficulty rating for each task is assessed as:**

= easy

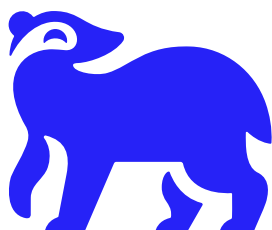
= medium

= challenging

Take a look at the Task catalogue on page 6 to see what's available. Fill in the Task checklist on page 7 as you work through your tasks.

We don't offer any hands-on interaction with animals at our centres or branches as part of the DofE programme. This is because we care for animals who've had problems in their lives and it can be stressful for them to see too many people.

**NOTE:** Please ask your parent or carer to look over the tasks in this workbook with you, to check that they're happy with you carrying them out. Please also tell them if you're aiming to get involved in any online/social media activities, to make sure you remain safe at all times.



Some practical tasks require outdoor space. If you don't have a garden or outside area to use, think about community spaces around you. Could you use your school grounds or outside space run by a community group?

**NOTE:** You must always ask permission from the relevant people before putting anything in a space that isn't yours, and be extra careful about maintaining or removing items.

## COLLECTING EVIDENCE FOR YOUR TASKS

Under each task there's an area where you add evidence of your activities. We may ask you to write a summary or report – there are spaces to do that in this workbook. Or we could ask you to give, email or post your Assessor copies of presentations, posters, leaflets and videos, or to email them photos of your events or items you've made.

**NOTE:** Please only submit images that don't feature people's faces.



Show the activity



Don't show faces

## CHOOSING AN ASSESSOR

Before beginning your DofE Volunteering section with the RSPCA, you'll need to sign up to **eDofE**. You'll also need to **choose an Assessor**. The Assessor's role is to check and assess what you're doing for each task. They don't need any specific skills or qualifications, but must be over 18 years old, not a family member, and have an interest in the RSPCA or animals. It's important that you share your completed workbook with your Assessor when you've finished so they can sign off your tasks (see page 50).

## SUBMITTING YOUR WORK TO DofE

Once you've completed your workbook, your Assessor needs to mark all your tasks as 'complete' – they can do this on pages 50–53.

We'll send you a Certificate of Completion after receiving your feedback on this **Google form**. If you're under 18, please either give us your parent/carer's or leader's email address so we can send the certificate to them – or just ask them to email us on: **dofe@rspca.org.uk**

## IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM

If you have any problems, issues or concerns when completing your RSPCA DofE workbook, please talk to your parent or carer. If you need further assistance, you can email us at: **dofe@rspca.org.uk** Our working hours are Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm, and we'll aim to reply to you within five working days.





## ASSESSOR'S GUIDE

This page is for your Assessor. Please share it with them.

Thank you for offering your time and expertise to assess the Volunteering section of this young person's DofE programme.

They need to choose to complete either 13 hours' volunteering over a 13-week period, averaging one hour per week or volunteer for 26 hours over a 26-week period, averaging one hour per week.

Your role involves helping the young person in their volunteering. You'll need to:

- help them set some goals and understand what they want to get out of volunteering with us
- discuss transport with them, any accessibility needs they may have, and how feasible these tasks may be for them
- review all the work they complete, including reviewing images of completed tasks (making sure you can't see people's faces in the images), checking answers, and reading their essays
- support and encourage them
- monitor their progress
- check their tasks are all completed – the Assessor's form on pages 50–53 gives you the criteria for what they need to have done to have completed their tasks. Please complete and sign.

The young person will meet DofE requirements if they've undertaken their activity regularly (averaging at least one hour per week) over the agreed timescales and have demonstrated effort, perseverance and improvement.

Once they've completed their tasks, you'll need to submit an [Assessor's report on the DofE website](#). What you write will form part of the permanent record of their DofE programme. With this in mind, please celebrate the young person's achievement and make your comments personal, positive and engaging. Remember to include the activity's start and end dates.

To submit your report visit: [DofE.org/assessor](https://dofe.org/assessor) and follow the instructions. You'll need the young person's name, their eDofE ID number, their DofE level (Bronze or Silver) and the section you're assessing (Volunteering). You can also [watch this video](#).

For more information and support please speak to the young person's DofE Leader in the first instance. If they can't help, please email: [dofe@rspca.org.uk](mailto:dofe@rspca.org.uk)

### Urgent safeguarding issues

If you have an urgent safeguarding concern, the [NSPCC](#) has excellent advice on who to contact.



# TASK CATALOGUE

## ANIMAL ADVOCACY

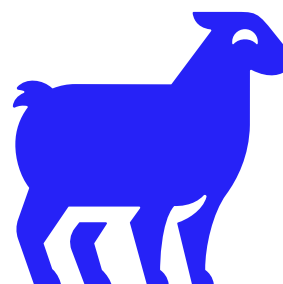
- 1** Campaign for animals
  - 1A: Research, *and*
  - 1B: Promotion
- 2** Encourage your local council to help animals
  - 2A: Research, *and*
  - 2B: Contact your council
- 3** Assess animals in the media
- 4** The ethics of farming egg-laying chickens
- 5** 'What do you wish for animals?'
- 6** Educate an audience

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 7** Litter pick
  - 7A: Carry out a litter pick, *or*
  - 7B: Organise a community litter pick
- 8** Fundraise/collect for the RSPCA
  - 8A: Research, *and*
  - 8B: Plan your event, *and*
  - 8C: Advertise your event, *and*
  - 8D: Prepare for your event, *and*
  - 8E: Manage your event, *and*
  - 8F: Write a post-event summary
- 9** Collect for our pet food banks
  - 9A: Research, *and*
  - 9B: Make a 'paws pack'
- 10** Take part in a bird or bat watch event

## PRACTICAL ANIMAL WELFARE

- 11** Create drinking stations to help wildlife
- 12** Make bird treats
- 13** Bake dog or cat treats
- 14** Build a bug or ladybird hotel
  - 14A: Make an individual hotel, *or*
  - 14B: Make a communal hotel
- 15** Make a home for hedgehogs



# TASK CHECKLIST

You can use this checklist to help keep track of all you've achieved.

## ANIMAL ADVOCACY

TASK	COMPLETED	HOURS
<b>TASK 1A:</b> CAMPAIGN FOR ANIMALS: RESEARCH		
<b>TASK 1B:</b> CAMPAIGN FOR ANIMALS: PROMOTION		
<b>TASK 2A:</b> ENCOURAGE YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL TO HELP ANIMALS: RESEARCH		
<b>TASK 2B:</b> ENCOURAGE YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL TO HELP ANIMALS: CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL		
<b>TASK 3:</b> ASSESS ANIMALS IN THE MEDIA		
<b>TASK 4:</b> THE ETHICS OF FARMING EGG-LAYING CHICKENS		
<b>TASK 5:</b> 'WHAT DO YOU WISH FOR ANIMALS?'		
<b>TASK 6:</b> EDUCATE AN AUDIENCE		

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TASK	COMPLETED	HOURS
<b>TASK 7A:</b> LITTER PICK: CARRY OUT A LITTER PICK		
<b>TASK 7B:</b> LITTER PICK: ORGANISE A COMMUNITY LITTER PICK		
<b>TASK 8A:</b> FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: RESEARCH		
<b>TASK 8B:</b> FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: PLAN YOUR EVENT		



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (CONT'D...)

TASK	COMPLETED	HOURS
<b>TASK 8C:</b> FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT		
<b>TASK 8D:</b> FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: PREPARE FOR YOUR EVENT		
<b>TASK 8E:</b> FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: MANAGE YOUR EVENT		
<b>TASK 8F:</b> FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: WRITE A POST-EVENT SUMMARY		
<b>TASK 9A:</b> COLLECT FOR OUR PET FOOD BANKS: RESEARCH		
<b>TASK 9B:</b> COLLECT FOR OUR PET FOOD BANKS: MAKE A 'PAWS PACK'		
<b>TASK 10:</b> TAKE PART IN A BIRD OR BAT WATCH EVENT		

## PRACTICAL ANIMAL WELFARE

TASK	COMPLETED	HOURS
<b>TASK 11:</b> CREATE DRINKING STATIONS TO HELP WILDLIFE		
<b>TASK 12:</b> MAKE BIRD TREATS		
<b>TASK 13:</b> BAKE DOG OR CAT TREATS		
<b>TASK 14A:</b> BUILD A BUG OR LADYBIRD HOTEL: MAKE AN INDIVIDUAL HOTEL		
<b>TASK 14B:</b> BUILD A BUG OR LADYBIRD HOTEL: MAKE A COMMUNAL HOTEL		
<b>TASK 15:</b> MAKE A HOME FOR HEDGEHOGS		

**PLEASE TICK** I have completed: 3 months (13 hours) of Volunteering

6 months (26 hours) of Volunteering

# TASK 1

## CAMPAIGN FOR ANIMALS

The RSPCA campaigns to improve animal welfare. We aim to prompt political and behavioural change on a range of animal welfare-related issues. But we can't do it alone. Can you help?

Total time: 2 hours

Difficulty: 

*This task is broken down into two parts that need to be completed together.*

### WE'RE CAMPAIGNING TO:

- raise awareness of the welfare needs of our nation's pets and help pet owners to ensure the welfare needs of their pets are being met
- improve the welfare of as many farm animals as possible, at every stage of their lives
- make sure wild animals are protected from human activity and unnecessary suffering
- reduce the use of animals in experiments and reduce their suffering with a constructive and practical approach.

### SOME OF OUR CURRENT CAMPAIGNS INCLUDE:

- **Dogs die in hot cars**
- **Pets as prizes**
- **Help stop ear cropping**
- **#saveourbreath**

Our campaigns team works hard to promote our campaigns, for example by creating mail drops and social media posts. We'd love you to create some campaign content for us.

### TASK 1A

#### RESEARCH

Time: 1 hour

#### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Spend time researching our variety of campaigns to find one that resonates with you. A good starting point is to take a look at our [online campaigns page](#).

### TASK 1B

#### PROMOTION

Time: 1 hour

#### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Promote the campaign to your school, social club or community centre in an informative way. This could be by creating a video for social media, or producing a leaflet or presentation – but you can choose a way that suits you.

On social media, use the hashtags **#RSPCADofE** **#DofE** and **#YouthWithoutLimits** so we can see your creations. Take a look at our [guidelines on online safety](#).

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Summarise the main points from your research on page 10. Then send your Assessor a copy of your presentation, leaflet or video (include the task title and number).

**TASK 1A. WHAT DID YOU FIND OUT IN YOUR RESEARCH? SUMMARISE THE MAIN POINTS:**

# TASK 2

## ENCOURAGE YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL TO HELP ANIMALS

Be a voice for animals and write to your local council to inspire it to make animals' lives better.

Total time: 2 hours

Difficulty: 

*This task is broken down into two parts that need to be completed together.*

Together, we can make a difference if we all let our local council know about the issues that are important to us. You'll need to research a topic so you're able to write about it with confidence and then suggest some solutions – keeping the letter positive and constructive.

### TASK 2A

#### RESEARCH

Time: 1 hour

#### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Research which topic you want to write to your council about. What animal welfare issues are you passionate about? Choose a cause to research or pick one of these, below.

Click on a topic to learn more.

- [Ban giving fish as prizes at funfairs](#)
- [Alternatives to fireworks](#)
- [Support higher-welfare meat in council or public services](#)
- [No Mow May](#)

### TASK 2B

#### CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL

Time: 1 hour

#### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Write a letter – on paper or via email – to your local council about the issue. Include ideas for solutions that could help make things better.

Our [letter-writing tips and template](#) can help you write your letter.

Our advice is to:

- explain why you're writing
- enquire about the council's current and future position on your chosen topic
- provide suggestions for improvement.

Search for your local council on the [UK Government's website](#). You should be able to find a 'Contact us' option on your local council website.

#### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Summarise the main points of your research on page 12. Then copy and paste the text of your letter onto page 13, leaving out your postal or email address.

**TASK 2A. WHAT DID YOU FIND OUT IN YOUR RESEARCH? SUMMARISE THE MAIN POINTS:**

**TASK 2B. COPY AND PASTE THE TEXT OF YOUR LETTER:**

A large, empty rectangular area with a light beige background, intended for pasting the text of a letter.



# TASK 3

## ASSESS ANIMALS IN THE MEDIA

There are so many images and representations of animals all around us. But are those images showing good animal welfare or are they damaging?

Total time: 2 hours

Difficulty: 

*There is just one part to this task.*

Animals are everywhere. They're in the films we watch, the adverts we see, the books we read and on social media. We would like you to explore how animals are portrayed in books, the media and society. Then think about how their welfare could be improved. For example, dressing up animals and flat-faced dogs, such as pugs, may look 'cute' but there are welfare problems for those animals. If you want to find out more, take a look at our information on [animal welfare](#).

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

We want your thoughts on the ways that animals are portrayed. Feel free to be creative and explore a range of media, choosing examples for each.

Here are a few suggestions to get you started.

- Social media
- Books
- Magazines
- Billboards and advertising posters
- Adverts (e.g. on TV or YouTube)

### POINTS TO CONSIDER

Think about different areas when you're looking at how an animal is being portrayed: nutrition,

environment, behaviour, health, and effects on people and animals.

#### Nutrition

- Does the animal have the correct food for them?
- Do they have access to fresh water?

#### Environment

- Is the animal in a safe space?
- Does the animal look comfortable?

#### Behaviour

- Is the animal behaving naturally?
- Does the animal have the right company for them?

#### Health

- Does the animal look healthy?
- Could the animal be harmed by the activity?

#### Effects on people and animals

- Reflect on what people are seeing and consider the impact for animals.
- Could it become a trend that causes harm?
- Does it highlight good practice?

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Write down your thoughts on page 15.

**TASK 3. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE WAYS THAT ANIMALS ARE PORTRAYED IN THE MEDIA?**

# TASK 4

## THE ETHICS OF FARMING EGG-LAYING CHICKENS

Find out more about the chickens who lay the eggs for our food and look at the different ways in which they're kept.

Total time: 2 hours

Difficulty: 

*There is just one part to this task.*

Discover what the print on eggs means. Then research and compare how farms with caged laying hens and farms with free-range laying hens work. Think about how this affects the chickens' lives.



Here are three questions for you and other people to answer.

- What do the codes printed on eggs mean?
- What are the differences between caged and free-range laying-hen farms?
- What views do you, or other people, have about the future of farming hens for eggs?

Our website may help you with your research as we have lots of information on [egg labelling](#) and [laying-hen welfare](#).

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK


Carry out your own research and then interview other people (we suggest a minimum of five people) to find out what they know about the ways egg-laying chickens are kept, and what they think about the ethics (the moral principles) of egg farming.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Write a summary of your own research that answers each question (on page 17), followed by a short summary of your findings from your interviews with others (on page 18).

**TASK 4. TELL US WHAT YOU HAVE FOUND OUT IN YOUR OWN RESEARCH INTO OUR THREE QUESTIONS:**

**TASK 4. TELL US WHAT YOU DISCOVERED ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S VIEWS FROM YOUR INTERVIEWS:**



**TASK**  
**5****‘WHAT DO YOU WISH FOR ANIMALS?’**

If wishes came true, how would you improve the lives of animals?  
You can pick any topic and be creative about how you illustrate your wishes.

Total time: 1 to 1.5 hours

Difficulty: 

*There is just one part to this task.*

Let us know what you would change in order for animals to be healthier and happier. It could be a topic you are currently learning about or a new idea.

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Write a creative piece or design a poster. Here are some things to think about.

- Your ideas can come from the work of the RSPCA, from other organisations, or from your own learning.
- Before writing your idea, think about whether it should focus on ‘animals’, ‘people’ or the ‘planet’. At times, before we can make animals happier, we have to inspire people to make our environment healthier.
- Rather than saying “We want people to stop being cruel towards animals”, try to reframe it as “We want people to be compassionate towards animals”.
- Think of the ripple effect you create with small acts of kindness. What impact will you make for animals, people, or the planet if your wish comes true?

Here are two examples of wishes for animals.

- My wish coming true means dogs can live happily in a loving home.
- If my wish came true, all cats could lead a healthy life.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Write a piece about your wishes (on page 20) or send your Assessor a copy of your poster (include the task title and number).



**TASK 5. TELL US ALL ABOUT YOUR WISHES FOR ANIMALS:**

# TASK 6

## EDUCATE AN AUDIENCE

Find out more about our work, pick a subject that inspires you, and then share your findings with an audience so you can inspire them too. You can choose to give a talk, design a poster or leaflet, or prepare a presentation.

Total time: 4 hours

Difficulty: 

*There is just one part to this task.*

A lot of the RSPCA's work is challenging. And some people are unaware of our work or the animal welfare issues we deal with. So we sometimes organise online talks that give a wider perspective of our work to our volunteers.

Our talks include:

- [puppy farming and what to do when buying a puppy](#)
- [litter that affects wildlife](#)
- [animals used in scientific research and testing](#)

We want you to learn more about our work and share it with your school, class or activity group.

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

You need to do three things.

- Watch one of our recorded online sessions
- Carry out your own research
- Share your findings with others

Watch one of our recorded sessions

It can be a session that you'd like to learn more about, or be on an issue you didn't realise we covered. You can find the links on the left.

Research more about the topic

After watching the session, carry out extra research and put together a talk or presentation focusing on how your audience can help animals.

- For puppy farming, you could talk about how your audience can make sure they're buying a puppy in an ethical way and include issues such as The Puppy Contract.
- For litter, you could talk about how your audience can help reduce litter and spread the word about its impact on wildlife
- For animals in science, you could talk about how people can get involved in campaigning and raise awareness of how animals are used in research and testing.

Share your findings

Share your research as a presentation, talk, poster or leaflet. This can be for your school, your classmates, or an activity group that you go to.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Tell us which topic you chose and write notes on your research (on page 22). Then either send your Assessor a copy of your presentation, leaflet or poster (include the task title and number) or write a summary of your talk (on page 23).

**TASK 6. WRITE A SUMMARY OF YOUR RESEARCH FINDINGS:**

**TASK 6. WRITE A SUMMARY OF YOUR TALK:**

# TASK 7

## LITTER PICK

Picking up litter and disposing of it safely is one of the most immediate and effective ways of helping wildlife.

Total time: 2 to 5 hours

Difficulty: Task 7A  Task 7B 

You can choose either task 7A or 7B, depending on how challenging you want your task to be

# TASK 7A

## CARRY OUT A LITTER PICK

Time: 2 to 3 hours

Litter is a serious issue across the UK for many reasons and can be extremely dangerous to wildlife. Everyday objects – such as food tins, plastic can holders or balloons – can seem harmless but animals can get tangled up, trapped and injured, or even die. Vapes and single-use plastic are common harmful items.

Litter picking is a simple but effective way to make a huge difference, and we would love you to get involved and get outside to pick up litter. Before you do, please read our information below about litter picking safely. You can contact your local council to see if they will lend you equipment for your litter pick.

You'll need a parent or carer to help you.

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

- Choose an area for your litter pick. All litter has the potential to harm wildlife, so you'll be helping wherever you collect it. Collecting it from a town centre can prevent it reaching rivers and woodlands, or hurting urban animals like foxes.
- Keep Britain Tidy's [website](#) gives health and safety information, along with guidance about organising litter picks, so we would like you to visit their website to get the most up to date and accurate information. They also have a [Beginner's guide to litter picking](#). You need to stay safe by wearing high-vis jackets and heavy-duty gloves and using litter pickers and hand wash. Also consider the weather and environmental conditions.
- If you find clinical waste such as needles and syringes, **do not touch them**. Instead, make a note of where they are and tell your local council.
- If you find very heavy items, sharp objects such as broken glass, dead animals or potentially hazardous objects such as chemical containers, please leave them alone and contact your local council to take them away. You can also let them know if you spot fly tipping.
- Decide how you might want to categorise the litter you collect (e.g. by material or by whether it's recyclable). You could also create a data collection sheet to document your findings.
- Plan how to transport your collected litter from the site to a suitable location.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Write a summary of your litter pick on page 26, including any data about what you've collected and health and safety planning. Then send your Assessor a photo of the bags of litter collected (include the task title and number).

**TASK  
7B****ORGANISE A COMMUNITY LITTER PICK**

Time: 4 to 5 hours

Get a group together and organise a community litter pick. This could be with your friends, family or a local group you are part of such as Scouts.

You'll need a parent or carer to help you.

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

- Choose an area for your litter pick. All litter has the potential to harm wildlife, so you'll be helping wherever you collect it. Collecting it from a town centre can prevent it reaching rivers and woodlands, or hurting urban animals like foxes. You may be required to request permission in certain locations for a group litter pick.
- Keep Britain Tidy's [website](#) gives health and safety information, along with guidance about organising litter picks, so we would like you to visit their website to get the most up to date and accurate information. They also have a [Beginner's guide to litter picking](#). You need to stay safe by wearing high-vis jackets and heavy-duty gloves and using litter pickers and hand wash. Also consider the weather and environmental conditions.
- If you find clinical waste such as needles and syringes, **do not touch them**. Instead, make a note of where they are and tell your local council. If you find very heavy items, sharp objects such as broken glass, dead animals or potentially hazardous objects such as chemical containers, please leave them alone and contact your local council to take them away. You can also let them know if you spot fly tipping.
- Decide how you might want to categorise the litter you collect (e.g. by material or by whether it's recyclable). You could also create a data collection sheet to document your findings.
- Plan how to transport your collected litter from the site to a suitable location.
- Decide on a date and time and invite others to join you. You can speak to people directly, send them a message, or put up a notice on a community board. Ensure everyone knows where to meet and what they need to bring with them.
- Manage and take part in the litter pick. You might want to organise people into areas, ensuring everyone knows where to put their litter bags when they're full, as well as what time to meet at the end and where to put certain items if you're categorising them.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

On page 27, write a report about your litter pick. Include details of the day itself, how you thought it went, your health and safety considerations, and whether you would do anything differently if you did it again, as well as a summary of your findings (what you found, the most common items and the most unusual items). Then send your Assessor a photo of the bags of litter your group collected (include the task title and number).



**TASK 7A. WRITE A SUMMARY OF YOUR LITTER PICK, INCLUDING ANY DATA YOU COLLECTED:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).

**TASK 7B. WRITE A REPORT ON YOUR COMMUNAL LITTER PICK:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).

**TASK  
8****FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA**

Without the support of kind people raising money for us or donating items we need, we couldn't rescue, rehabilitate, rehome and release animals.

**Total time:** 9 to 14 hours

**Difficulty:** 

*This task will take around six weeks and is split into six parts.*

As a charity, fundraising is very important to us – we rely on donations from the public as we don't receive any funding from the government. Fundraising comes in all different forms and we'd love you to organise an event that either raises money or collects items for your local branch or animal centre.

**TASK  
8A****FIND OUT ABOUT THE RSPCA**

**Time:** 1 hour

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Make sure you know why you've chosen to support the RSPCA – the more you know about the work we do, the more easily you'll be able to encourage people to support our cause.

Think about these three questions.

- Why is the RSPCA important to you?
- Which area of our work draws you in?
- Why do you want to raise money for the RSPCA?

Look at our fundraising information.

Request our fundraising pack [here](#). This will give you hints and tips, along with poster templates and more.

You'll need to look at our [fundraising terms and conditions](#) as they include legal information.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

On page 32, write your answers to the three questions, telling us why you want to fundraise for the RSPCA.

**TASK  
8B****PLAN YOUR EVENT**

Time: 1 to 2 hours

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

If you're collecting for your **local RSPCA branch or animal centre**, you'll need to contact them first to ask what they need – examples could be food, blankets, toys, old towels and bedding. Once you've found out, it's time to plan your event.

If you're **fundraising**, there are lots of different events you could organise, such as a:

- bake sale
- physical challenge
- supermarket collection
- 'Name the teddy' competition,
- or sponsored silence.

Once you've decided on your event, it's time to decide when and where.

- Decide which day to hold your event – a weekday or on the weekend?
- Does your event need to be on a certain day?
- What time should it be?
- Is your event time-specific?

Think about what help you'll need with your event, such as help setting up or clearing up after your event.

If you're doing a bake sale, you may need friends, family or neighbours to make extra cakes. If you're doing a challenge, you may need support or to set up a fundraising page, such as Just Giving or Go Fund Me.

Now's your time to talk to the people you need to help with your event. It's always best to have a conversation with them, so you can be clear about what you're asking them to do and can answer any questions they may have.

You also need to think about where you're going to hold your event and if you need to request permission to hold your event at that location. If you're under 18, ask an adult to help you reach out to the location.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

On page 33, write down your plans for the event, including a summary of who you've spoken to about helping.

**TASK  
8C****ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT**

Time: 1 hour

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Now, you need to advertise your event. You could, for example, create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary). You could also share the

details (safely) on social media, and talk to family, friends and neighbours about your event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Send your Assessor a copy of your poster and/or a screenshot of your social media (removing your user details). Remember to include the task title and number.

**TASK  
8D****PREPARE YOUR EVENT**

Time: 3 to 6 hours

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Think about what you need to do to prepare for your event. Do you need to choose your recipes and start baking (you may want to add a list of ingredients to your sale on the day in case of allergies)? Or keep

training for a challenge? Or contact local businesses for donations if you're collecting items? Think it through carefully and make sure everyone knows what they need to do for the day itself.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

On page 34, write a list of your preparations for your event.

**TASK  
8E****MANAGE YOUR EVENT**

Time: 2 to 3 hours

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

You need to manage your fundraiser on the day. Here are some things to think about.

- Give yourself plenty of time to set up.
- Make sure all your helpers know what time to be there and what they need to do.
- Arrange for an adult to help keep any cash/items safe during the event.
- Clearly signpost your event to people.
- Make sure people know you're fundraising or

collecting for the RSPCA, and the branch or centre name if applicable.

- If collecting items for a branch or animal centre, organise a time to drop them off.
- If fundraising for the RSPCA, organise time to send in your donation.

Thank you! You've worked hard to set up your event, so take time to enjoy the day!

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Send your Assessor photos of your event on the day (include the task title and number).

**TASK  
8F****WRITE A POST-EVENT SUMMARY**

Time: 1 hour

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Tell us all about your event. How did it go? Was it as you planned? Is there anything you would have done differently? Would you consider it a success?

How much did you raise for the RSPCA, or how many items did you collect for your local branch or animal centre?

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

On page 35, write a summary of how your event went on the day, including any things you'd do differently if you did it again.

**TASK 8A. TELL US WHY YOU WANT TO FUNDRAISE OR COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).

**TASK 8B. TELL US YOUR PLANS FOR YOUR EVENT:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).



**TASK 8D: WRITE A LIST OF ALL YOU'VE DONE TO PREPARE FOR YOUR EVENT:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).

**TASK 8F. TELL US HOW YOUR EVENT WENT:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).

**TASK  
9**

## COLLECT FOR OUR PET FOOD BANKS

Our pet food bank scheme collects food and vital equipment for the pets of owners who are struggling during the cost-of-living crisis.

Total time: 2 to 3 hours

Difficulty: 

*This task is broken down into two parts that need to be completed together.*

Here at the RSPCA we don't want any animal – or their owner – to go hungry. However, seven in ten pet owners are worried about the cost of caring for their animals and one in five are concerned about how they'll afford to feed them.

Our pet food banks collect pet food donations for owners and animals in need. The **cost-of-living crisis** means the service is more in demand than ever.

**TASK  
9A****RESEARCH**

Time: 1 hour

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Find out more about our pet food banks project, including when it started and if there is a **pet food bank** near you.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

On page 38, write a summary of your findings.

**TASK**  
**9B**

**MAKE A 'PAWS PACK'**

**Time:** 1 to 2 hours

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

The RSPCA holds face-to-face events at pet food banks that give support, advice and even pet health checks to food bank clients, as well as food and provisions. We also hand out 'paws packs' that give struggling pet owners vital items for their pets, including toys, poo bags and litter trays.

We need your help to build as many paws packs as possible. Collect items from your family, friends and neighbours to create one or more paws packs for a cat or a dog.

Once your pack/packs are ready, email our team at [petfoodbank@rspca.org.uk](mailto:petfoodbank@rspca.org.uk) Our team will arrange for you to drop items off at a local RSPCA site or ask one of their volunteers to pick them up.

Things to think about

- Please explain to your friends and family that the donated items need to be new and unused and food packages must be new and unopened.
- The bags or containers used for your paws pack should be chosen with the environment in mind – reusable non-plastic bags or cardboard boxes are ideal.
- Remember that pet owners may need to carry the bag home, so packs need to be small and light in weight.

**HERE ARE EXAMPLES OF USEFUL ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN YOUR PAWS PACK**

<b>DOG PAWS PACK</b>	
<b>TOYS</b>	
<b>TREATS</b>	
<b>POO BAGS</b>	
<b>SMALL BAG OF FOOD/WET FOOD POUCHES</b>	
<b>GROOMING BRUSH</b>	
<b>FOOD AND WATER BOWLS</b>	

<b>CAT PAWS PACK</b>	
<b>TOYS</b>	
<b>TREATS</b>	
<b>SMALL BAG OF FOOD/WET FOOD POUCHES</b>	
<b>LITTER TRAY</b>	
<b>FOOD AND WATER BOWLS</b>	

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Send your Assessor photos of your paws pack (or packs). Remember to include the task title and number.

**TASK 9A. TELL US WHAT YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THE RSPCA'S PET FOOD BANK PROJECT:****HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

Once you've decided on all of the details, you need to advertise your event. You can create posters and put them up (asking permission, if necessary), share the details (safely) on social media, and tell people about the event.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Below, upload a picture of your poster and/or a screenshot of details on social media (removing your user details).

**TASK  
10**

## TAKE PART IN A BIRD OR BAT WATCH EVENT

Take part in an important organised event that monitors either bird or bat numbers in the UK.

Total time: 1.5 hours

Difficulty: 

Choose *only one* of these activities.

### WINTER TASK: BIG BIRD WATCH

(takes place in January)

Every year, the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch takes place on the last weekend of January. It's the world's largest garden wildlife survey, and you can join in by clicking [here](#).

#### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Spend an hour watching the birds in your garden, visiting your balcony, or in part of your local park during the last weekend in January, and record which birds you see. Only record the birds that land in your patch, and record the highest number of each bird species you see at any one time. The [RSPB](#) has more information about how to record birds and submit your results. The results help the RSPB understand how different bird species are getting on in the UK.

### SUMMER TASK: INTERNATIONAL BAT NIGHT

(takes place in August)

International Bat Night is usually held during the last weekend in August and celebrates all things bats. You can help by taking part in the [Bat Conservation's Sunset Survey](#) to monitor bats in your area. It's easy to do as you don't need any experience of surveying bats or special equipment.

#### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Take a look at the [Sunset Survey species ID guide](#). Then spend an hour outside at dusk and record any bats or other nocturnal wildlife you see. Record your findings on the [Sunset Survey webpage](#).

#### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Send your Assessor a screenshot of your online submission of your results for either the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch or the Bat Conservation's Sunset Survey (include the task title and number).

# TASK 11

## CREATE DRINKING STATIONS FOR WILDLIFE

It's not just birds who need water. Mammals such as hedgehogs and insects such as bees do too.

Total time: 1 hour

Difficulty: 

*There is only one part to this task.*

Throughout the year, wildlife and insects can struggle to find water. Water sources can dry up when it's hot and freeze in the winter. We can help by creating drinking stations. Birds, hedgehogs, foxes, bees, and many more animals, benefit from having access to clean, fresh water.

Make one or more drinking stations and put them in your garden or on a balcony for one week. Or you could ask your school or activity group if you could add one or more drinking stations in their grounds (but make sure you're available to top them up and take them away afterwards).

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

- Use a shallow bowl so smaller animals aren't at risk of drowning. If you do use a deeper bowl, make sure there's a way to get out – this could be a pile of stones or a piece of wood.
- Add large pebbles to the bowl so bees and other insects can land on them to drink safely.
- In warmer months, put bowls in the shade but add a bowl in the sun for insects who prefer warmer water – cooler water brings their body temperature down and it can be a struggle for them to fly away.
- Change the water every day for one week, so the water stays fresh and clean.

- Make sure you collect the drinking stations once you've stopped leaving water out, as dirty water and bowls could cause the wildlife who drink from them to become ill.
- If you leave the drinking stations out for longer than one week, make sure you clean and dry them regularly – we recommend once a week.



### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Send your Assessor a photo of your bowl or bowls in their location(s). Remember to include the task title and number.

# TASK 12

## MAKE BIRD TREATS

Help birds find food and encourage them into your outside space by making healthy bird treats.

Total time: 1 hour

Difficulty: 

Choose to make either Apple and seed treats or Suet and seed treats.

No matter the time of year, birds will appreciate edible treats made for them. In the spring birds need to keep their strength up for nesting and feeding their chicks. In colder weather, food is more scarce.

We've given you two recipes for bird treats, below. Choose one of these to make and hang them out for the birds in your garden, on a balcony, or by a window.

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Follow the recipes to make either 'Apple and seed treats' or 'Suet and seed treats'.

Keep an eye on the treats after you've put them out for the birds. Remove them if they start to look 'off' or rotten or if the birds have stopped eating them (this can be a sign that the treats are spoiled).

Make sure you take the string away also, as it could cause harm to wildlife or the environment.



### APPLE AND SEED TREATS

#### You will need

- Apples
- Sunflower seeds
- Natural string

#### Method

- Core the apples using an apple corer or knife (make sure an adult is present or ask them to do this for you).
- Thread string (each piece should be 30–50cm long) through each apple and tie the ends together in a knot.
- Use the pointy end of sunflower seeds to pierce them into the apple. You can be creative with the seeds, making patterns or faces!
- Hang the apples in an open space where birds are likely to feel safe. Keep them away from cats, if you can. It's good to put them near a fence or branch, so birds have somewhere to perch.





## SUET AND SEED TREATS

### You will need

- Mixing bowl
- Pack of beef suet (not vegetarian)  
– around 240g
- Equal amount (i.e. 240g) of seed mix  
for wild garden birds
- Baking tray
- Foil or greaseproof paper
- Chopping board
- Cookie cutters
- Skewer or chopstick
- Natural string

### Method

- Cut the foil or greaseproof paper to size, then line the baking tray.
- Put the suet in the bowl (if it's not 'shredded' suet, you may want to grate it or chop it into small pieces first).
- Add the bird seed and knead it all together.
- When the mixture is thoroughly combined, flatten it out on a chopping board.
- Use your cookie cutters to make shapes. Or you could simply roll the mixture into balls.
- Keep combining the trimmings and reusing them until you've used up all the mixture.
- Use the skewer to make a hole through the middle of each shape. Place them on the baking tray.
- Put them in the fridge for a few hours.
- Slide the biscuits off the tray and thread string through each hole, but don't tie the ends yet.
- Take your bird biscuits to a tree, bush, bird feeder or bird table and tie them in place.
- You could also add raisins and sultanas (note that these are poisonous to dogs and cats, so keep them well away) or oats. If you add peanuts to the bird biscuits, make sure they're crushed into very small pieces. That way they're not a choking hazard for small or younger birds.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Send your Assessor a photo of the treats, either just after you've made them or once you've put them out for the birds (include the task title and number).

# TASK 13

## MAKE DOG OR CAT TREATS

Bake healthy treats – if you don't have your own pet, you could make them for a friend or neighbour's animal.

Total time: 1 hour

Difficulty: 

Choose to make either dog or cat biscuits.

Use our simple recipes to make delicious and healthy biscuits for cats or dogs. You can bake them for your own pets, or for friends, family or neighbours who have cats or dogs (you will need to seek permission from the owner before feeding their animal).

Alternatively, if you live close to an animal centre or a branch, you could ask them if they'll be able to use the treats.

You'll need a parent or carer to help you.

Only give dogs and cats one treat per day to help them stay a healthy weight.

**NOTE:** If you or anyone in your household has a peanut allergy, please skip this task. And if you're making the treats for a friend or neighbour, please tell them the ingredients in case they have an allergy.



### DOG TREATS

You will need

- 240g wholewheat flour
- 120g smooth peanut butter – *check the list of ingredients to make sure it doesn't contain xylitol, as this is harmful to dogs*
- 60g mashed banana
- 60g vegetable stock
- Oven
- Large bowl
- Mixing spoon
- Rolling pin
- Cookie cutter
- Baking tray
- Foil or greaseproof paper

Method

- Preheat the oven to 180°C.
- Cut the foil or greaseproof paper to size and line your baking tray with it
- Mix all the ingredients in a bowl until they form a dough.
- Dust your work surface with flour and roll out the dough until it's 0.6cm thick.
- Cut out biscuits using a cookie cutter (or simply cut them into strips) and place them on the baking tray.
- Bake your biscuits for 18 minutes or until they've turned golden brown. Use oven gloves when removing them from the oven.
- Leave the biscuits to cool down.



## CAT TREATS

### You will need

- 480g wholewheat flour
- 240g of chopped RSPCA Assured salmon
- 1 large RSPCA Assured egg
- Oven
- Large bowl
- Mixing spoon
- Rolling pin
- Cookie cutter
- Baking tray
- Foil or greaseproof paper

### Method

- Preheat the oven to 180°C.
- Cut the foil or greaseproof paper to size and line your baking tray with it
- Mix all the ingredients in a bowl until they form a dough.
- Dust your work surface with flour and roll out the dough until it is 0.6cm thick.
- Cut out biscuits using a cookie cutter and then place them on the baking tray.
- Bake your biscuits for 20 minutes or until they've turned golden brown. Use oven gloves when removing them from the oven.
- Leave the biscuits to cool down.

Cats are natural hunters, so you can break up the treat into smaller pieces and hide them in cardboard boxes, under clean yoghurt pots or in cardboard tubes around your home.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Send your Assessor a photo of the treats when they're out of the oven and cooled (include the task title and number).

**TASK  
14****BUILD A BUG OR LADYBIRD HOTEL**

With numbers of insects falling, we can help by building environments where they can breed, rest and shelter.

**Total time:** 1 to 3 hours

**Difficulty:** Task 14A



Task 14B



*Complete one of these tasks. Task 14A has two options – choose only one.*

Bug hotels help attract insects to your garden or a local green area. You can put them on the ground to attract insects that hedgehogs like to eat or up off the ground so they can use the hotel as a shelter and keep safe from predators.

We've given you instructions below. You can choose to make either an individual bug or ladybird hotel to put in your own outdoor space or a 'communal' bug/ladybird hotel to put in school grounds or another communal area. If you make a communal hotel, you'll need to ask the school or community group for permission and agree a spot where it will sit.

You'll need a parent or carer to help you.

**TASK  
14A****MAKE AN INDIVIDUAL BUG OR LADYBIRD HOTEL**

**Time:** 1 hour

**INDIVIDUAL BUG HOTEL**

You will need

- The end of a clean plastic bottle, an old mug or flower pot, or any snug container
- A mix of bamboo garden cane, hollow woody stems, cardboard tubes, corrugated cardboard, paper, bark, or any other tubes
- A few twigs and some dried grass or straw
- Hacksaw and scissors
- Natural string, if you plan on hanging up your bug hotel

Method

- Roll paper, cardboard or bark into tight tubes and cut to fit the length of your container. Variation is good – bees like holes from 2mm to 10mm.
- You can also use a hacksaw (or ask your parent/carer to do it) to cut bamboo canes to the length of your container. Some of the canes may be blocked inside, so clear them using a pencil or screwdriver.
- Pack your tubes tightly into your chosen container until the whole space is filled. Pack any empty spaces with twigs, dry grass or straw.
- Choose a place to hang or place your container. A mixture of sun and shade will attract a wider range of insects.

## INDIVIDUAL LADYBIRD HOTEL

You will need

- 2 or 3 small logs
- Drill
- A mix of pine cones, straw and twigs
- Pieces of wood or tiles or other repurposed materials to create a shelter



Method

- Drill (or ask a parent/carer to do it for you) a number of holes all over the small logs. Ladybirds will make their way into the depths of the log to stay safe. You can either place the logs in a larger shelter, or use the drilled logs as standalone homes.
- To create a shelter, find materials to use as a frame and/or a roof to keep the ladybird home protected from the weather. Materials could include repurposed wood pallets, spare ceramic tiles, and unused household items. Be creative, but make sure the shelter is safe.
- Pack out empty space with a variety of bedding materials, such as pine cones, straw and twigs.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Send your Assessor a photo of your individual bug/ladybird hotel (include the task title and number).

**TASK**  
**14B**
**BUILD A COMMUNAL BUG AND LADYBIRD HOTEL**

Time: 2 to 3 hours

**HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK**

We want you to build a communal bug or ladybird hotel, put together using wooden pallets or bricks, tiles and wood, and set up in a sheltered spot in a local green or communal area. You'll need to get permission and agree where to put it.



You'll need a parent or carer to help you.

First, find out why these hotels are beneficial to bugs and ladybirds and research local green spaces or community areas that you think would benefit from a communal bug/ladybird hotel. Ask the relevant people if you can install a communal bug/ladybird hotel on the land and explain the benefits.

Ask friends, family and neighbours if they'd be interested in making individual bug hotels, explaining your plan to put them together to make a communal hotel and giving them a date for when you'll need them. You can collect them or ask for them to be dropped off either with you or at the location where you're building the bug hotel.

Alternatively, you can create a number of individual hotels yourself or make some and also add dried leaves, straw, twigs, terracotta pots or tiles, drilled logs, etc. You can get creative!

In the final location, put together the individual bug/ladybird hotels within a stack of pallets or layer them with the bricks, tiles and wood to create a sturdy structure. Wear sturdy gloves to protect yourself from splinters and any spikes or sharp edges.

**NOTE:** You could approach local businesses to see if they have wooden pallets they'd be willing to donate.

**WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?**

Send your Assessor a photo of your communal hotel (include the task title and number).

# TASK 15

## MAKE A HOME FOR HEDGEHOGS

You might not know if there are hedgehogs in your area, but build them a house and they may move in!

**Total time:** 2 to 3 hours

**Difficulty:**  

*There is only one part to this task.*

Hedgehog numbers are falling, so it's good to do all you can to help them. Gardens can be safe spaces, especially if you build them a special house where they can nest and rear hoglets, rest during the day, or hibernate during the winter.

You can make the hedgehog home either in your back garden or in a community outdoor space. If you're making it in a community space, you'll need to get permission from the relevant people and agree on a spot to put it in.

You can build the home from bricks, wooden logs/stumps or a plastic container. We've provided instructions for a brick-built hedgehog house. As well as building materials, you'll need some soil and dry leaves, and even some wildflower seeds.

You'll need a parent or carer to help you.

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS TASK

Choose a shady, dry and quiet area in the corner of your garden or the green space. You may need to remove some soil to create a level base (keep the soil for later).



↑ Lay a single set of bricks on the ground to create an outline of a chamber and tunnel. Make the base of your hedgehog house around 40cm by 30cm. The tunnel entrance should be no wider than 13cm to prevent predators getting in.



↑ Add a second (and third, if you have enough bricks) layer of bricks. Overlapping bricks will make the walls stronger.



↑ Use a paving slab or sheet of wood for the top of your hedgehog house. Stack logs, twigs and leaves around the house as these will attract insects for any hedgehogs to eat.



↑ Add soil over the top of the logs surrounding the house. You could sow wildflower seeds as these will benefit pollinators. Lastly, place a pile of dry leaves just by the entrance – a hedgehog will drag them inside and use as bedding.

## MAINTAINING YOUR HEDGEHOG HOME

If you want to put out special hedgehog food, place it away from the house – hedgehogs don't like to sleep near their food.

Clean the house in October, as this is before hibernation and after hoglets leave. You can check if there's a hedgehog in residence by placing something lightweight, like a twig, in the way of the entrance.

If the twig has moved, there's likely to be a hedgehog using the house, so it's best to leave it alone.

**NOTE:** You'll need to wear disposable gloves to clean out the hedgehog house. Please make sure you throw them away afterwards and then wash your hands thoroughly.

### WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?

Send your Assessor a photo of the completed hedgehog home (include the task title and number).



# ASSESSOR'S FORM

To be filled in by your Assessor only.

**Assessors:** Please take a look at the following criteria, which will help you assess the relevant tasks.

THE TASKS	COMPLETED
<p><b>TASK 1A</b>  <b>CAMPAIGN FOR ANIMALS: RESEARCH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do they understand the campaign they chose?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TASK 1B</b>  <b>CAMPAIGN FOR ANIMALS: PROMOTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have you received a copy of their presentation, leaflet or video?</li> <li>Does the leaflet/video/poster explain the campaign and why it should be supported?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TASK 2A</b>  <b>ENCOURAGE YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL TO HELP ANIMALS: RESEARCH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do they understand the topic they are contacting the council about?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TASK 2B</b>  <b>ENCOURAGE YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL TO HELP ANIMALS: CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is their letter structured well?</li> <li>Does the letter include an explanation of why they're writing?</li> <li>Have they enquired about the current and future status of their topic?</li> <li>Have they provided suggestions for a resolution?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TASK 3</b>  <b>ASSESS ANIMALS IN THE MEDIA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have they effectively explored how animals appear in the media and thought about how their portrayal could be improved?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TASK 4</b>  <b>THE ETHICS OF FARMING EGG-LAYING CHICKENS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do they have the correct details about eggs? For reference, the first number on an egg tells us how the hen was raised: 0 = organic; 1 = free range; 2 = barn; 3 = caged. The two letters tell us in which country the egg was laid. The final set of numbers tell us which farm raised the hens who laid the eggs.</li> <li>Have they thought about the differences between caged and free-range egg-laying hens?</li> <li>Have they explained their thoughts on the future of farming hens for eggs?</li> <li>Have they summarised the views of the people they talked to about this issue?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TASK 5</b>  <b>'WHAT DO YOU WISH FOR ANIMALS?'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have you received a copy of the poster?</li> <li>Does their writing on poster explain in detail what they wish for animals?</li> </ul>	

**THE TASKS**
**COMPLETED**
**TASK 6**
**EDUCATE AN AUDIENCE**

- Did they effectively research their chosen topic?
- Have you received a copy of the presentation, leaflet or poster?  
Was their talk/presentation/poster/leaflet informative?
- Did it get across what the audience could do about the topic?

**TASK 7A**
**LITTER PICK: CARRY OUT A LITTER PICK**

- Did they take health and safety into consideration when carrying out their litter pick?
- Did they include data on the types and amount of litter picked up?
- Have you received a photo of their bags of litter?

**TASK 7B**
**LITTER PICK: ORGANISE A COMMUNITY LITTER PICK**

- Did they plan their litter pick well?
- Did they take health and safety into consideration when organising and carrying out their group litter pick?
- Have they written about what they could have done differently?
- Have they included a summary of what they found – such as vapes or single-use plastic and any items of interest?
- Have you received a photo of their group's bags of litter?

**TASK 8A**
**FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: RESEARCH**

- Did they request and receive the RSPCA fundraising pack?
- Did they show why they want to fundraise for the RSPCA?

**TASK 8B**
**FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: PLAN YOUR EVENT**

- If fundraising for a local branch or animal centre, did they contact them?
- Did they show you their fundraising plan?

**TASK 8C**
**FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT**

- Have you received a copy of their presentation or a screenshot of their social media?
- Was their event advertised well?

**TASK 8D**
**FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: PREPARE FOR YOUR EVENT**

- Have they written a list of how they prepared for their event?
- Did they show good organisational skills?

**THE TASKS**
**COMPLETED**
**TASK 8E**
**FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: MANAGE YOUR EVENT**

- Have you received photos of their event?
- Did they execute their fundraising event well?

**TASK 8F**
**FUNDRAISE/COLLECT FOR THE RSPCA: WRITE A POST-EVENT SUMMARY**

- Are they pleased with how the event ran?
- Have they explained what they would do differently, another time?
- Have they told you about the outcome – money raised or items collected?

**TASK 9A**
**COLLECT FOR OUR PET FOOD BANKS: RESEARCH**

- Does their research show they understand what a pet food bank is and how it helps those who use it?

**TASK 9B**
**COLLECT FOR OUR PET FOOD BANKS: MAKE A 'PAWS PACK'**

- Have you received a photo of their paws pack (or packs)?
- Have they confirmed where their pack(s) went?

**TASK 10**
**TAKE PART IN A BIRD OR BAT WATCH EVENT**

- Have you received a screenshot of their online submission for either the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch or the Bat Conservation's Sunset Survey?

**TASK 11**
**CREATE DRINKING STATIONS TO HELP WILDLIFE**

- Have you received a photo of their bowl or bowls in their location(s)?
- Did they confirm to you that they changed the water daily?

**TASK 12**
**MAKE BIRD TREATS**

- Have you received a photo of their treats, either just after they made them or once they put them out for the birds?
- Did they remove the treats if they looked 'off'?

**TASK 13**
**BAKE DOG OR CAT TREATS**

- Have you received a photo of their treats?

**THE TASKS****COMPLETED****TASK 14A****BUILD A BUG OR LADYBIRD HOTEL: MAKE AN INDIVIDUAL HOTEL**

- Have you received a photo of their individual bug/ladybird hotel?
- Did they take health and safety into account when building the hotel?

**TASK 14B****BUILD A BUG OR LADYBIRD HOTEL: MAKE A COMMUNAL HOTEL**





- Did they request consent to create a communal bug hotel in the community area?
- Have you received a photo of the communal hotel?
- Did they take health and safety into account when building the hotel?

**TASK 15****MAKE A HOME FOR HEDGEHOGS**

- Was consent requested to build a hedgehog house in the community area, if necessary?
- Have you received a photo of the completed hedgehog home?
- Did they take health and safety into account when building the hedgehog house?

**PLEASE TICK TO CONFIRM YOU'RE HAPPY THE TASKS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY MEETING THE AGREED CRITERIA:**

# RSPCA.

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals  
Parkside, Chart Way, Horsham RH12 1GY ■ 0300 1230 100  
rspca.org.uk  facebook.com/RSPCA  twitter.com/RSPCA\_official  instagram.com/rspca\_official  
 tiktok.com/@rspca\_official  linkedin.com/company/rspca

The RSPCA helps animals in England and Wales ■ Registered charity no. 219099  
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