

## Creature Comforts (EYFS focus)

The activities and resources in this section involve the Caring for God's Acre flagship species who have made burial grounds their home. The resources and activity suggestions have an Early Years focus however they can be used with and adapted for all age groups.

Hedgehogs, Bumblebees, Slow Worms and Swifts often choose burial grounds for their home. The information, ideas and resources involving these important British species can be used and adapted during or following your burial ground visit.

## Hedgehog

### Resources

[Hedgehog template](#)

[Hedgehog writing frame](#)

[Poem - Hibernating Hedgehogs by Tony Mitton](#)

### Activities

**1. Handy Hedgehogs** – create handprints in different colours; cut them out, put everybody's handprints together to create the spikes on a Hedgehog. Cut out a simple Hedgehog head and paws to add to the spikes.

**2. Hedgehog template** - cut out the [Hedgehog template](#) on thin card and paint it. Collect fallen leaves to stick to the body to create the spikes.

**3. Make a Hedgehog** - collect spiky things such as twigs and stalks. Make a Hedgehog body from clay and stick in the spiky materials. Use seeds for eyes.

**4. Look after Hedgehogs** – a shallow dish of water in a shady spot in dry periods can be a life saver for Hedgehogs.

**5. Create Hedgehog habitat** - make a woodpile with lots of gaps to allow Hedgehogs to get in. The pile should be stacked over 50cm high and can then be topped up annually with new wood. (You could drive in 4 corner stakes and then stack the wood between them to stop the pile falling over).

**6. Become a 'Hedgehog Street Champion!'** - find out more at [www.hedgehogstreet.org](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org).

### Hedgehog book list

The Very Helpful Hedgehog – Rosie Wellesley

Percy the Park Keeper – The Hedgehogs Balloon – Nick Butterworth

The Tale of Mrs Tiggy-Winkle – Beatrix Potter

One Snowy Night – Christina Butler

Hedgehog Howdedo – Lynley Dodd

The Hodegheg – Dick King-Smith

Prickly Poems – British Hedgehog Society

You can also find a free Hedgehog activity pack at [www.naturedetectives.org.uk](http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk).











## Hibernating Hedgehogs

Here comes winter,  
cold and grey.  
The hedgehog tucks  
itself away.

Here comes ice  
and here comes snow.  
It needs somewhere  
warm to go.

Here comes mist  
and freezing fog.  
Here's a good old  
hollow log.

And here's a pile  
of leaves that's deep.  
It rolls up tight  
and goes to sleep.

*Tony Mitton*

