

# HELPING WILDLIFE THIS WINTER

Who looks after wildlife in winter? They need someone to help them as they're not lucky enough to live with families who will look after them, like our pets are!

We know we can count on you to help them out - don't worry, we're doing all we can to help the wildlife near us too.

How you can help...



## Shelter

If you can, provide sheltered areas for visiting wildlife to hunker down away from the worst of the weather.

Hedgehog houses are useful (although they'll be hibernating right now). Can you pop some bird or bat boxes up, too?



## Frozen ponds

If you have a pond in your garden, it's really important to check it regularly as frozen ponds can build up toxic gases which are harmful to fish and frogs that may be living in them. To prevent a pond freezing over entirely, place a ball in the pond which can be removed if it freezes, giving a hole for air to get through. Make sure you do this with your parents to keep safe!

## Food

Helping wildlife by providing some extra food is one of the most important things you can do in winter. With most animals, their food supply will be scarce. Check out our feeding guides below!

### What's on the bird menu?

- Suet blocks/sprinkles or balls provide a great source of extra calories
- Seeds and grains
- Unsalted peanuts
- Cooked pasta or rice and boiled potatoes
- Cheese
- Raisins and sultanas
- Apples and pears



### What's on the badger menu?

With badgers, only supply small amounts of food when the weather is bad, so they don't become too reliant on you.

- Tinned cereal-based dog food
- Cheese
- Unsalted peanuts
- Lightly cooked meat
- Seasonal fruits



### What's on the squirrel menu?

Squirrels will have stored some food ready for the winter, but they'll still enjoy some extra help!

- Hazelnuts
- Walnuts
- Almonds
- Chopped apple
- Beans
- Carrots
- Spinach

