



TOP TIPS FOR A WILDLIFE FRIENDLY GARDEN



To increase populations of earthworms and soil invertebrates, **don't dig into the soil** unless you're planting. Lay compost on top to provide habitat for invertebrates and attract ground feeding birds.

Plant up open areas as this will protect the soil and will also create corridors for frogs and newts to move around.

Help the pollinators by planting nectar-rich plants for bees and butterflies. Remember to also provide habitat for insects to overwinter and to plant some plants that make good food for their caterpillars.

Don't cut your lawn until late May. The plants that flower early, like daisies and dandelions, provide early season nectar for pollinators.

Provide a **different types of food** to attract a range of garden birds. The more you do to attract the birds the more will visit year on year.

If you don't have trees or hedges for birds to nest in, **put up nestboxes.**

Leave some space to **sow wild and woodland flowers** in succession as this will provide year round shelter for invertebrates and amphibians.

Make log or stickpiles around garden edges as these provide shelter for a host of wildlife, such as hedgehogs.

Keep the centre of your lawn short so birds can forage for grubs.

Leave long grass at the edges of the lawn to create shelter for invertebrates.

If you have fences around the garden, **leave gaps for hedgehogs** to move between your garden and the one next door.