

Encourage nature into your homes and gardens!

By Isla Simmonds

Year 5 Wonersh & Shamley Green School

On Wednesday the 21st of April in our class, year 5 at WSG we had a special visitor. He was a professor of plants and taught at Sheffield university. His name was Professor James Hitchmough, and he told us about his job designing landscapes with plants.

His visit inspired me into thinking about how it would be great to make Surrey a better place by encouraging nature into our gardens. Ponds are good to have as they support life for tadpoles, newts and other small amphibians. If you can't manage a pond, putting out a water dish, a bird feeder or bird boxes will make a difference. Even little things like planting more flowers or mowing the lawn less often will help in making our country a more nature filled environment.

Bugs and insects really appreciate little places where they can hide and shelter in our gardens. You could help by creating Bug Hotels - easy to make with sticks, wood and leaves. You can buy these in shops, but in school in one of our forest school sessions, we had a go at making one from recycling to put in our own gardens - it was great fun. There are so many ways people can help wildlife in their own gardens.....

Just imagine if every person took part in changing our country. Things wouldnt change in a blink of an eye, more flowers wouldn't just start appearing, but things **would** change overtime. It would be great if we as a village or as a country could make a difference and play our small parts a bit like jigsaw pieces being put together. Will you make a difference? If you have any ideas and want to share them or get involved, please contact henrieta.griffiths@gmail.com she has promised to share any ideas with our school so we can all share ideas and work together.

By Isla Simmonds and Lily Southgate

