

MAKE A MINIBEAST TRAP

Follow these simple steps to create a trap to catch, observe and release minibeasts in your garden.

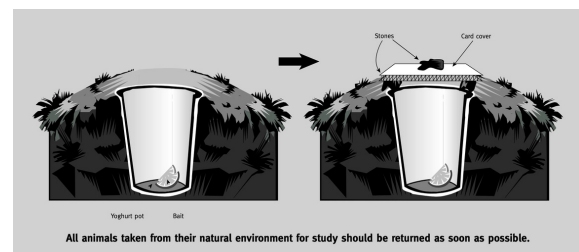
Materials required

To set your “traps” outdoors you will need:

- a selection of empty yoghurt pots
- sufficient pieces of thick card to rest on top of each pot
- some large stones (to support the card)
- food to bait each trap. (Suggested baits are cat food to tempt carnivorous invertebrates and pieces of apple or sweet things to attract herbivorous invertebrates. Note: It is useful to experiment with different kinds of bait. Put meat baits and vegetarian baits in different pots to try to keep carnivores and herbivores apart.)

Steps to follow

1. Make two or three small holes in the base of each yoghurt pot so that if it rains, the rainwater is able to drain away and the animals you have trapped do not drown.
2. Dig a hole big enough for each pot to fit in and put your bait inside the pot.
3. Place four large stones around each pot and rest a piece of card on top to keep out “unwanted guests”.
4. Secure with a large stone on top.



All animals taken from their natural environment for study should be returned as soon as possible.