

2011609
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AWARD
ECEY6005





My Garden

I have always loved the outdoors and nature. I spent my childhood climbing trees, and discovering wildlife, insects and secret dens!

On many occasions I collected tadpole and nurtured them until they grew into tiny froglets before setting them back into their habitat.

As an adult I love camping holidays and encouraging my children to spend time in nature.

However, my garden does not reflect my love of nature and the outdoors!





DISCOVER!

Being a childminder and having 2 dogs has meant over the years I have increasingly been finding ways to make my garden 'low maintenance'. It has been slabbed to keep it cleaner and to allow easy cleaning of any dog mess.

Time to re-discover my garden and what it has to offer.

Discover!

I was pleasantly surprised to find what actually does still visit or live in my garden.

- Birds
- Butterfly
- Bees
- Beetles
- Spiders
- Woodlice
- Worms
- Caterpillar



Explore

Some of the
wildflowers and
neglected plants I
found!



Explore

Some of the birds I found in
and around my garden. The
bird song in the morning is
beautiful.



[Click here to
listen to bird
sounds from
my garden](#)



Explore



Benefits of Birds

Spread seeds

Pollinate plants

Control pests by eating many insects

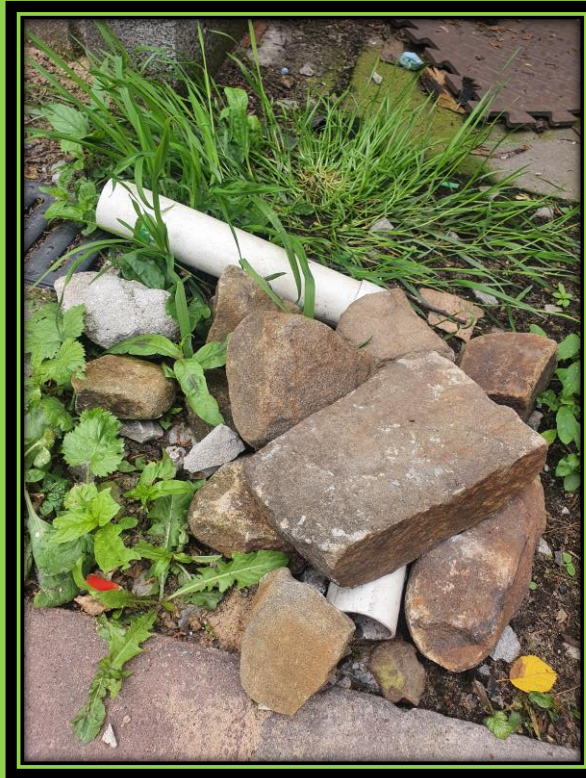
Enhance our mood

Bird droppings are rich in plant nutrients and an important fertilizer.

Conserve



**BUG
HOTELS**



As my garden is so exposed I have created a few areas for insects to hide have safe space to shelter using guidance from the woodland trust.



Conserve

After doing some research I have bought flowers and plants to attract butterflies and bees to my garden.



Conserve

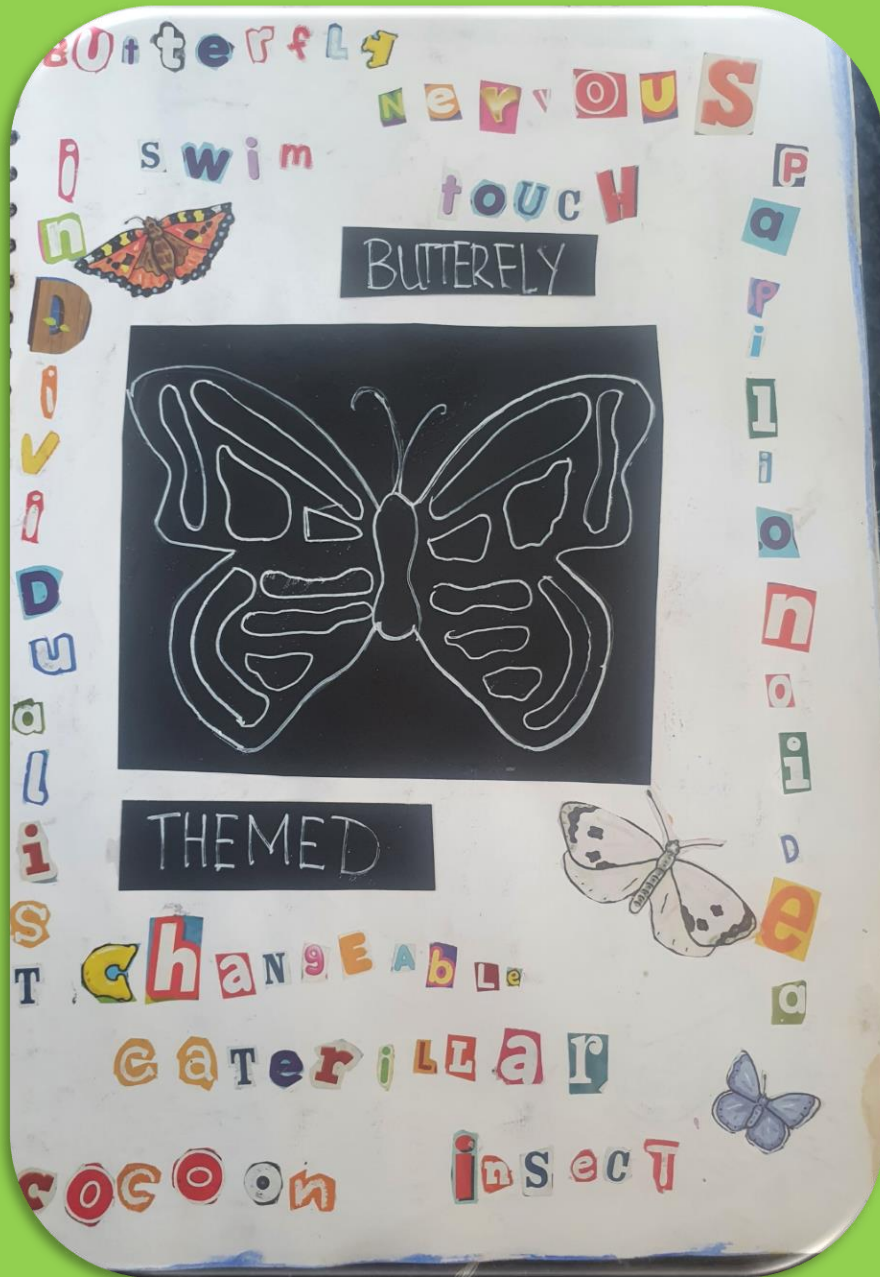


Wild flowers

I found these wild flowers growing out of the wall in various places around my house.

I will leave them to grow as they attract bees and butterflies as well as other insects and pollinators.

I especially want to attract butterflies as the children love spotting them.



Butterfly Facts

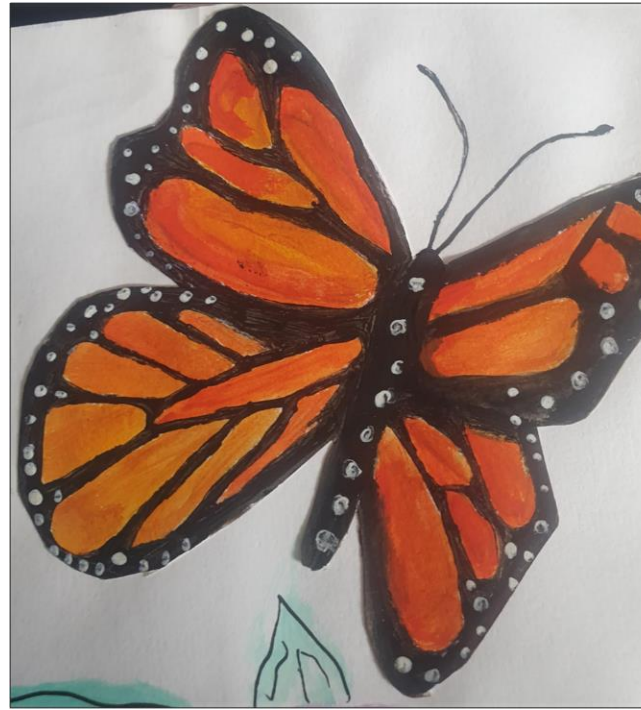
- ❖ Butterflies taste with their feet
- ❖ The average lifespan for most species is just 2 - 4 weeks
- ❖ They cannot fly when they are cold
- ❖ The UK has about 60 butterfly species
- ❖ The painted lady is the most commonly spotted butterfly in the UK
- ❖ Butterflies feed on nectar and pollinate many types of wildflowers
- ❖ Butterflies are sensitive to habitat and climate change and the presence of butterflies indicates a healthy environment

*Butterfly in my garden, not for
very long*

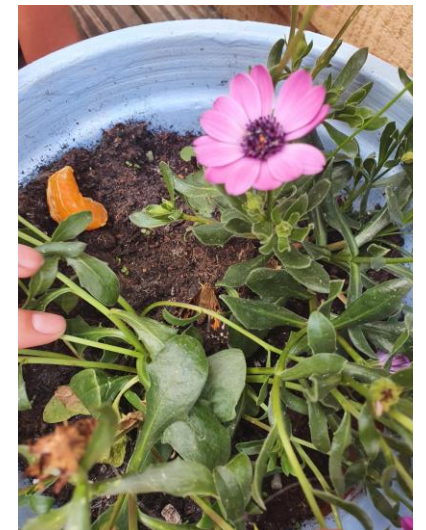
*Butterfly in my garden, soon
you will be gone*

*Butterfly in my garden, in my
flowerpot*

*Butterfly in my garden, we need
you a lot.*



Can you spot
the butterfly
hiding in the
flowerpot



Reflection



I have really enjoyed taking part in this award and have realised that I don't need as much time or space as I had thought to make a difference. Just a few pots and a little consideration can help a lot.



I have learned lots about birds and the importance of plants and flowers as for pollinators.



Going forward I will be maintaining my garden and the little changes I have made. I have also ordered a bird bath.

My family have loved seeing the little changes and the children have shown lots of interest in the wildlife.

