

Hedgehog Planner

2023

August

Signs and sightings:

Actions taken for Hedgehogs:

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September

Signs and sightings:

Actions taken for Hedgehogs:

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October

Signs and sightings:

Actions taken for Hedgehogs:

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Remember
to join our First ever
Hedgehog count on
11th - 19th September

#HomesForHedgehogs



#HomesForHedgehogs



2023

Hedgehog Planner

Homes for Hedgehogs



Bubbly personality

A hedgehog has the strange habit of **'self anointing'** when it comes across a strong smell or taste. It twists its head round and covers its spines and fur in a frothy saliva - looking as though it is covered in soap bubbles! This behaviour is quite normal but no-one knows its purpose.



Lone ranger

There are **17** species of hedgehog across the world, but **only one** in the UK



Weighty issue

Hedgehogs can live up to 6 years and weigh between 400 to 1,000g. The average weight of a hedgehog is 700g, although this fluctuates during the year

Hogs in a hurry

Although their eyesight is poor, hedgehogs have good hearing and a well-developed sense of smell. Hedgehogs are good runners, proficient climbers and can even swim.



Prickly character

Hedgehog spines are really **modified hairs about 25mm long**. An adult hedgehog has about **3,000 - 5,000 spines**. Each spine lasts about a year then drops out and a replacement grows.



Little urchins

Before the mid-15th century, hedgehogs were called 'urchins', which is where the terminology 'sea urchin' comes from!



Boys & girls

Male hedgehogs are called **boars** and females are called **sows**

The big sleep

Hedgehogs in cold climates hibernate over the winter. In warmer climates such as deserts they sleep through heat and drought in a similar process called aestivation. In more temperate areas they remain active all year.



Somerset Wildlife Trust

Homes for Hedgehogs

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