



Somerset
Wildlife Trust

Hedgehog Planner

2023

Homes for
Hedgehogs

August

Signs and sightings:

Actions taken for Hedgehogs:

September

Signs and sightings:

Actions taken for Hedgehogs:

October

Signs and sightings:

Actions taken for Hedgehogs:



Remember

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

#HomesForHedgehogs



Hedgehog Planner

**Hedgehogs
for
Homes**

Somerset Wildlife Trust



2023

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.



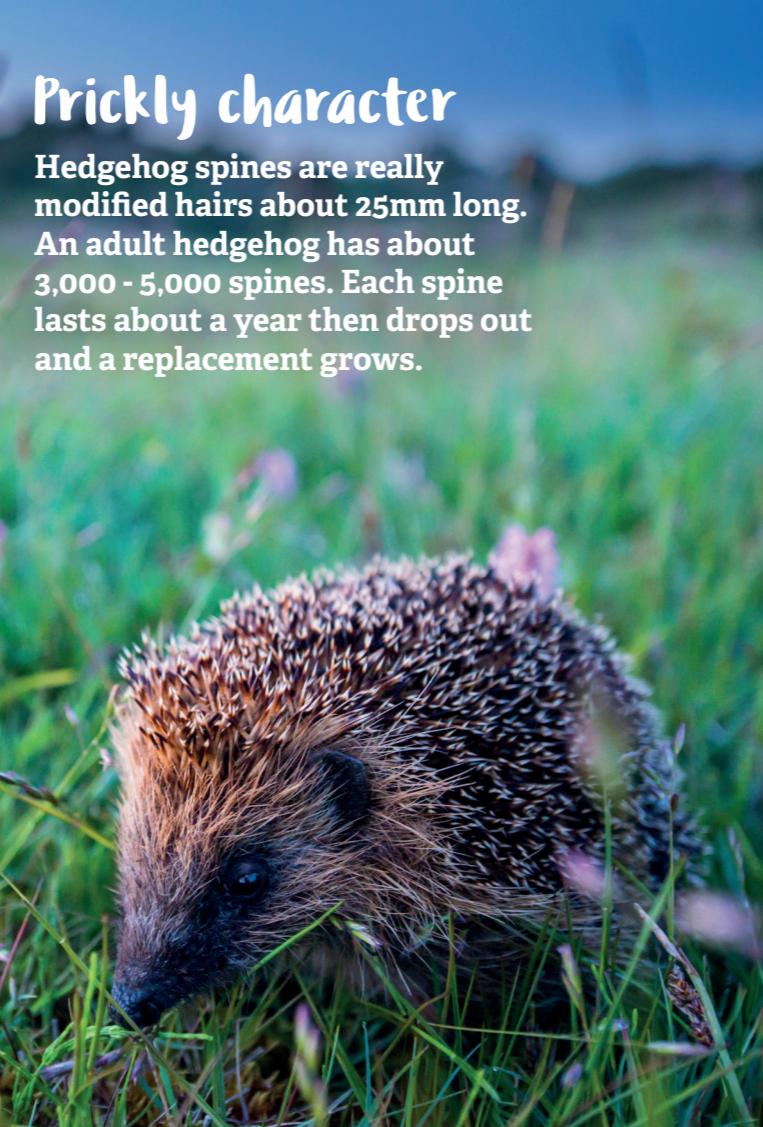
Bubbly personality

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.



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.



Lone ranger

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



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**



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



The big sleep

Hedgehogs in cold climes 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.



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**Homes for
Hedgehogs**

Somerset Wildlife Trust,
34 Wellington Road, Taunton. TA1 5AW
Registered Charity No. 238372
www.somersetwildlife.org