



Build your own Super-Secret Bug Base

Like superheroes, bugs and insects need a base to call home! Different creatures like different environments such as dark, cool holes to hide from the heat of the sun; soft, damp leaves for moisture and protection and food-filled soil can all be attractive for a creature looking for a safe place to stay.




By creating an inviting bug base, you can give a creature a home while also creating








an easy place for you to observe them without having to spend lots of time looking for them.

Think like a bug and design the perfect superhero base for the clever creatures around you!

YOU WILL NEED

-  **Sturdy box, wooden pallet or bricks**
-  **Smaller cardboard boxes and tubes** (e.g. toothpaste box or kitchen roll tube.)
-  **Leaves, soil and other materials to create bug-friendly habitats**

INSTRUCTIONS

-  Choose your super-secret bug base walls. Find a large sturdy box. You could make a temporary bug base with a cardboard box or find a wooden pallet or old stack of bricks for something more permanent.
-  Make some different rooms using smaller boxes or tubes and fill them with different bug-friendly materials like leaves, soil, twigs and grass.
-  Find a bug-friendly location for your building. Insects like quiet, damp, sheltered places such as at the base of a tree. Secure your box in its secret spot.
-  Leave the super-secret bug base for a few days, then gently move the material in each room to see who has come to visit. You could use a bug catcher to study anything you find, but don't forget to return the bug to the bug base when you have finished studying it.
-  Scientists always make observations and take good notes. Make a note of which types of creatures you find on which type of material to help you think about how different environments attract different animals.



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