**How to make a mini nature reserve**

1. **Choose your site**
   Choose a safe place to put your window box - somewhere like an old bench or wall at an easy height for inspection.

2. **Gather your materials**
   - window box
   - a small log
   - yoghurt pot
   - some compost
   - a rock

3. **Fill the box with compost**
   Always use peat-free compost and save our precious peat bags.

4. **Add a few features**
   Dig in the yoghurt pot and add the small log and rock.

5. **Leave!**

6. **Keep a diary**
   Record the changes you see. Make notes using guidebooks and take a photo every week.

7. **Management**
   Remove out of control plants or cut them back with scissors.

*Before*

- Compost right up to top of box
- Log

*After*

- Yoghurt pot buried up to the rim and filled with rainwater
- Look under rock for small creatures

www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

with thanks to Patrick Roper for original idea (windowboxwildlife.blogspot.com)