

# EDUCATION

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 EDU 002  
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An insect garden is a collection of flowering plants and shrubs attractive to pollen and nectar gathering insects. Insects are attracted to colour and scent of flowers which promise food for them.

## WHERE TO PUT YOUR INSECT GARDEN

It should be sited in a warm sunny sheltered part of the garden. If you let a part of your garden grow 'wild' you will also attract a wider variety of species.

## WHAT TO GROW

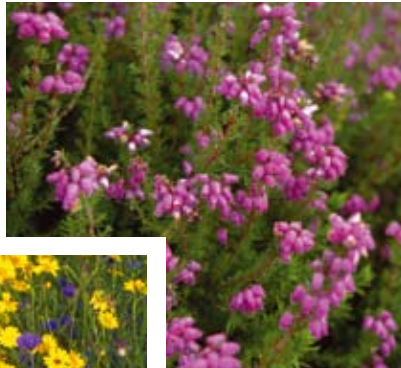
- Grow a range of plants which flower at different times throughout the year so that there are always flowers available for the insects.
- In general purple and yellow flowers are most attractive to insects.
- Some plants can be grown from seed and some can be purchased as seedlings.

## TYPES OF FLOWERS

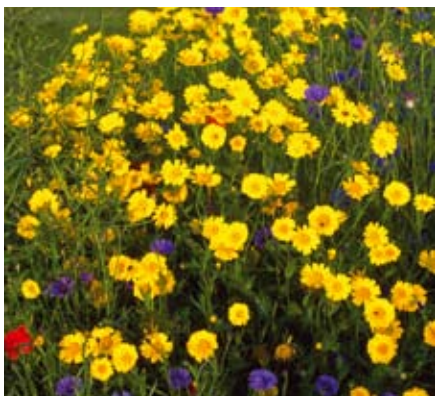
- Spring flowers: wallflower, polyanthus, red valerian, honesty and candytuft.
- Summer flowers: lavender, thyme, buddleia, petunias, michaelmas daisies and heather.

Some insects do not live on pollen alone. Caterpillars feed on the leaves of various plants, not normally the ones the adults get their nectar from. Some butterflies e.g. the peacock, feed on stinging nettles in their caterpillar stage. Brimstone butterflies only lay their eggs on alder buckthorn. If you want butterflies to settle permanently in your garden you must plant for the caterpillar as well.

Perennials		Annuals	
MD	Michaelmas daisies	A	Alyssum
L	Lavender	Ho	Honesty
H	Heather	SW	Sweet William
IP	Ice Plant	C	Cornflower
V	Veronica	Au	Aubretia



BELL HEATHER



CORNFLOWER & MARIGOLDS

## PLAN OF SMALL INSECT GARDEN

