

How I Made My Garden Biodiverse



I allowed certain sections of my garden to grow more naturally without regular trimming or tidying. This little bit of wilderness provides a haven for various species, offering them natural debris for food and shelter.

Creating a Mini Wildflower Meadow

By cultivating a patch of long grass interspersed with wildflowers like common poppies, corn marigolds, and ox-eye daisies, I've attracted numerous pollinating insects such as bees and butterflies, while also providing a refuge for other wildlife.

Diverse Plant Selection

I planted a wide range of species with different shapes, colors, sizes, and scents, ensuring there are plants that flower and bear fruit at different times of the year, thereby supporting various wildlife from spring to winter.

Choosing Fragrant Flowers

Many insects are attracted to the scents emitted by flowers. I focused on planting aromatic plants that attract pollinators like butterflies, which use their sense of smell rather than sight to find their food plants.

Supporting Specific Wildlife Needs

I reserved spaces for plants like garlic mustard and milkmaid, which are crucial for the early butterflies of the year like the orange tip. I also maintained patches of stinging nettle, which are vital for the caterpillars of peacock butterflies.

Adding Trees and Shrubs

I planted a variety of trees, shrubs, and hedges to provide additional shelter and nesting spots. These also produce flowers, fruits, and seeds, which are highly attractive to wildlife.

Adding Wildlife-Friendly Features

A log pile, a piece of corrugated iron for cover, compost heaps, and a water source like a pond or bird bath were integrated into the garden layout. These elements help support a

wide range of creatures, from amphibians to insects.

Homemade Compost

Using garden waste, I make my own compost. This not only recycles nutrients back into the soil, making it rich and fertile but also provides a warm habitat for various creatures benefiting from the decomposing material.