

## Home and Garden

**Before you start have a look at the following questions:**

- What types of animals do you think would live in your garden or in the area around your house?
- Do you think there are any insects?
- Where might you find these insects?
- Do you think it is important to have trees in your garden or near your house?
- What might live amongst the rocks and logs in your garden, if you have any?

**Record the habitat quality of your garden and around your home by looking at the following:**

- Surfaces within your garden or around your home (concrete, tarmac, stones, grass...)
- Tree measurements - how many trees can you see in your garden or out your window?
- Do you know what type of trees they are?
- Logs and rocks (are there any piles of these around your garden, count the piles)
- Vegetation (do you have an area of plants and groups of plants in your garden or can you see any out your window?)
- Organic litter (are there any piles of leaves, twigs, small branches, mulch in your garden or can you see any out of your window?)
- Habitat extras: **(Bonus point of 10 if your garden or the area around your house has any of the following:** *compost heaps, vegetable garden, orchards, bird baths, nest boxes, pond/wetland area*
- Rubbish is very bad for birds and wildlife. Can you see any rubbish in your garden or in the area around your home? If there is some in your garden can you pick it up safely and get rid of it?

**Discuss with your family and the people in your home:**

- What do you think you could do to provide different habitats for the birds and wildlife?
- Did you notice any plants growing under the trees?
- If there are plants, do you think these are important to birds and wildlife?
- How much variation was there in the organic litter you found?
- Did you see any insects hiding in the organic litter?
- Why do you think insects are important to birds?
- Rubbish - do you think birds and wildlife would like living in your garden and around your home if there was more or less rubbish?