## March - Ecology Low Tech - Step-By-Step Activity







## Step-by-Step Guide

Climate Change Topic	Ecology
High-tech or Low-tech?	Low-Tech
Duration of Activity (in minutes)	30-40 minutes initially, and then 5 minutes a day twice weekly  Learning Outcome  ✓ Understand how to protect native wildlife ✓ Understand how to protect biodiversity
Materials Required for Activity	<ul> <li>Plant pot or container measuring 50cm in diameter</li> <li>Peat-free, multi-purpose compost</li> <li>Pollinator friendly plants</li> </ul>
Step-by-step instructions	Support the re-growth of the pollinator population in your garden by planting native and pollinator-friendly plants in your garden or local area!
	In this activity, we will help you to learn more about how you can naturally help to restore the pollinator population in your garden!  1. Follow these steps to get started: Step1 - Conduct your own research into pollinator friendly plants for your pot(s) or garden patch. The following links will help you with this research:  a. Pollinator-friendly flowers: <a href="https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AIPP-A5-Flyer-Garden-2022-PRINT.pdf">https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AIPP-A5-Flyer-Garden-2022-PRINT.pdf</a> b. Pollinator-friendly herbs: <a href="https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AIPP-Herbs-A5-Flyer-2022-PRINT.pdf">https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AIPP-Herbs-A5-Flyer-2022-PRINT.pdf</a> 2. Step 2 - Designate a budget of both time and money - work out how much time and money you can commit to this project.  a. Not every project requires new materials. Try upcycling older materials such as plant pots or making your own compost with leftover food waste. The following links will be useful for these upcycling projects:  b. A good compost recipe: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDIVpJgjoXQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDIVpJgjoXQ</a> c. Some upcycled plant pot ideas: <a href="https://www.gardenersworld.com/plants/upcycled-containers-for-the-garden/">https://www.gardenersworld.com/plants/upcycled-containers-for-the-garden/</a> 3. Step 3 - Once you have bought or sourced your plants, your next





- step is to plan them! Place your plant pot(s) in a sunny spot where you would like to keep them and fill two-thirds with compost.
- 4. Step 4 Gently remove your plants from their current pots and place them into your container, filling in around the roots with the remainder of the compost.
- 5. Step 5 Pat down your compost, leaving a few centimetres of space from the top of the plant pot to the surface of the compost.
- 6. Step 6 Water the plants twice a week (or maybe more depending on the plants you have chosen).
- 7. Step 7 Keep up maintenance of your plants throughout the year by:
  - a. Deadheading blooms so your plants keep flowering
  - b. Making sure not to waterlog your plants by watering the soil and not the plants themselves
  - c. Allowing leaves to die naturally so pollinators have some shelter throughout the winter!







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