# Shoebox garden

You don't need a huge outside space to watch wildlife and plant life grow and develop. Why not turn an old shoebox into a busy little eco-friendly garden?

### You will need:

- A shoebox with a tray for drainage
- Plants/seeds/edible plants/herbs
- Mud
- Plastic to line box with
- Stones, shells
- A container for a pond?
- ...plenty of imagination!

## Wildlife and plant life thrive in the Queens garden at Buckingham Palace. Tree stumps are not removed, but left to rot away naturally, providing a perfect environment for insects to lay their eggs. Dead trees are also left alone to provide homes for families of birds such as Woodpeckers.

**Ref:** <u>https://silverhaar.com/2020/05/12/shoebox-</u> garden-challenge/



02920 451242

Early Years Wales 2018. Registered in Wales. Registered Office Unit 1, Coopers Yard, Curran Road, Cardiff CF10 5NB Company limited by guarantee 3164233. Charity 1056381

#### Method:

- Keep lid on box and cut a rectangle into the top
- Decorate your box with natural objects, eco-friendly paint etc
- Line your box with plastic to make it waterproof
- Fill with mud
- Get planting and creating
- Lightly water
- Watch your garden grow!

## 5 Benefits of gardening with children:

- 1. Plants teach patience
- 2. Plants give children a sense of responsibility
- 3. Plants provide sensory
- development
- 4. Plants help children develop fine motor skills
- 5. Gardening promotes healthy eating



