

How to Build a Bug Hotel with Bea the Bee

Learning objective: To identify and use the features of instructional writing, including imperative verbs, chronological order, and technical vocabulary.

Read the passage below carefully. Answer the questions that follow to show your understanding of how to write clear, effective instructions.

How to Build a Bug Hotel

Are you ready to give local minibeasts a cosy place to stay? Follow these steps to build a simple hotel in your garden.

Equipment needed:

- A wooden crate or a sturdy plastic tub
- Natural materials: pinecones, dried leaves, hollow bamboo canes, and twigs
- String or garden wire

Method:

1. Firstly, find a quiet, dry corner of your garden to place your crate.
2. Carefully pack the wooden crate with your natural materials. Ensure you mix them up so there are plenty of small gaps and nooks for insects to crawl into.
3. Gently push the hollow bamboo canes into the gaps to create tunnels for solitary bees.
4. Finally, secure the front with some garden wire to stop the materials from falling out.
5. Wait patiently for your new guests to arrive!

Word bank: imperative · chronological · preposition · adverb · bullet points · equipment · method

1. Identify two imperative (bossy) verbs used in the 'Method' section. (2 marks)

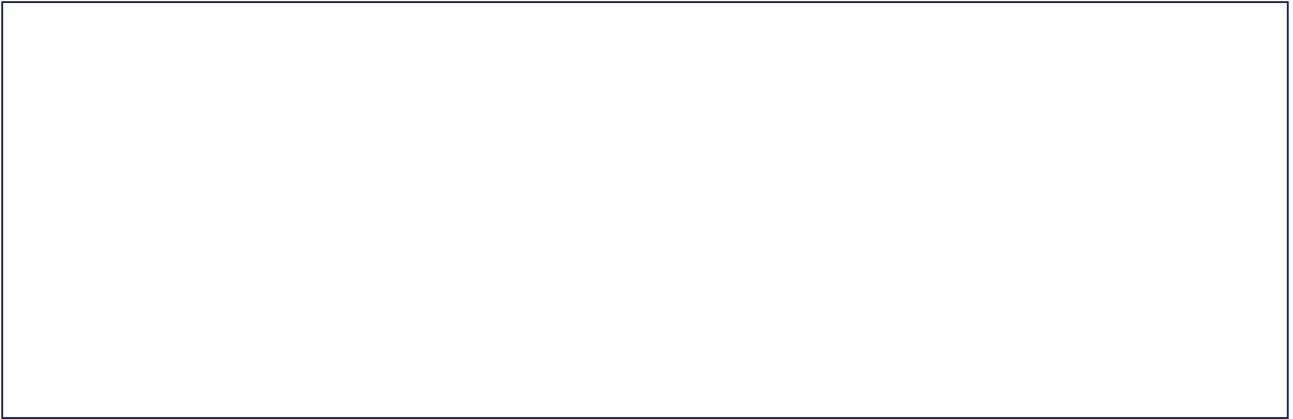
2. Why is it important to list the 'Equipment' before the 'Method'? (2 marks)

3. Look at step 2. Why does the author suggest you should 'mix them up' when packing the materials? (2 marks)

4. Which word in step 4 tells the reader how to finish the task? (1 mark)

5. If you were writing these instructions, what subheading would you add to explain what the reader needs to do to keep the hotel clean? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of the bug hotel you have just 'built' using the instructions. Make sure to label the different materials used.



Extension challenge: Write a new instruction step for this guide that explains how to decorate the roof of the bug hotel to keep it waterproof. Remember to start your sentence with an imperative verb.