A wood pile is a great way to encourage wildlife to visit your garden and set up home there. Dead wood provides shelter and food for a number of creatures including woodlice, spiders, slugs, beetles, frogs and slow worms. Hedgehogs may also make their den in your woodpile for their long winter hibernation.

Creating a wood pile is easy. Look out for pieces of wood such as logs, fallen branches and twigs. Try to use wood from a variety of tree species. Gather them up and pile them in a reasonably damp and shady area. Add some dead leaves to the pile too.

Once you have made the wood pile you must leave it alone. Allow the wood to rot as this provides food for slugs and snails which will then attract birds and hedgehogs into your garden. You may find that some interesting fungi appear!

It won’t take long for wildlife to make a home in your wood pile.