

# Hibernating Animals

Don't Hog the Hedge!



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# What Is Hibernation?

Animals such as hedgehogs, dormice, toads, bees and bats hibernate to escape the cold of winter.

Hibernation is when an animal goes into a very deep sleep during the winter.

During hibernation, animals breathe much more slowly and their body temperature becomes very low.



# Hedgehogs



**Click the buttons to find out more about hedgehogs.**

Hedgehogs like to eat insects, snails and worms. In the winter, when it is really cold, it is harder for them to find food. This is why they hibernate.

They lose a lot of weight when they hibernate because they aren't eating, so when they emerge from their sleep, they need to find food very quickly.

Hedgehogs make a nest of dry leaves and grass to keep themselves warm during hibernation.

Hedgehogs hibernate anytime from November to January. They will then stay in hibernation until the spring.

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# Dormice



**Click the buttons to find out more about dormice.**

Dormice hibernate between October and April.

They roll themselves into a ball and go to sleep on the ground, in a nest of leaves and grass.

In order to survive hibernation, dormice need to eat lots of food during the summer and autumn.

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# Toads



**Click the buttons to find out more about toads.**

Common toads usually hibernate between October and March.

They hibernate in damp places, such as the bases of hedgerows, under deep piles of leaves, in logs, burrows or drainpipes.

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# Queen Bumblebees



**Click the buttons to  
find out more about  
queen bumblebees.**

Queen bumblebees can hibernate for up to nine months of the year.

They hibernate in soil. The queen bee will dig down about 10cm below the ground. She will then make a little hole to hibernate in.

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# Bats



**Click the buttons to find out more about bats.**

Bats go into hibernation from November until March or April.

They often hibernate in disused buildings, old trees or caves.

Bats might hibernate on their own or in small groups.

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# Hibernation Quiz

## Where do hedgehogs hibernate?

Click on the picture to find out the answer.



**Hedgehogs make  
a nest of dry  
leaves and grass  
to keep themselves  
warm during  
hibernation.**



# Hibernation Quiz

What do dormice need to do lots of  
in the spring and autumn?

Click on the picture to find out the answer.



**They need to  
eat lots of food  
to survive the  
winter.**



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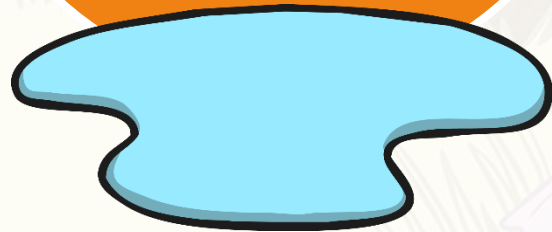
# Hibernation Quiz

Which animal hibernates in damp places?

Click on the picture to find out the answer.



**Toads hibernate in damp places.**





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