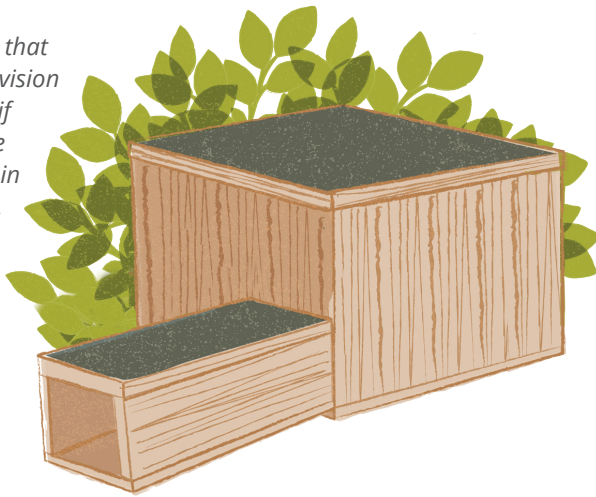# Naturehood

EARTHWATCH INSTITUTE

DIY hedgehog house

To make your own hedgehog house, follow our simple instructions. Don't forget to record this Naturespace action in your My Naturespace area of the Naturehood website.

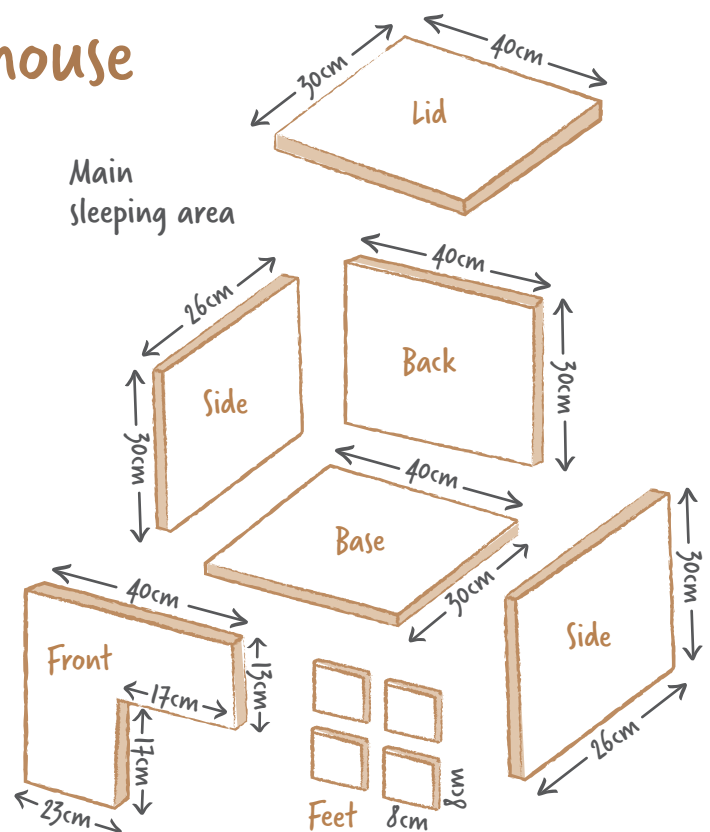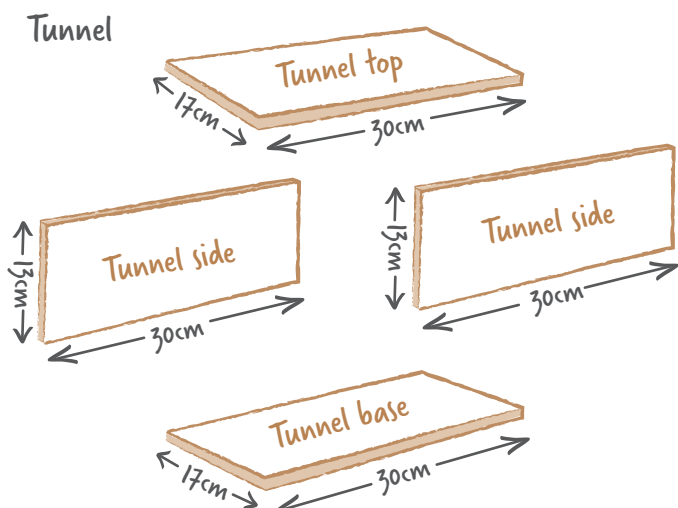*Please note that adult supervision is required if children are taking part in this activity.*

Equipment

- **Pencil**
- **Tape measure**
- **Ruler**
- **Saw**
- **Hammer/screwdriver**
- **Nails/screws**
- **Two metal hinges**
- **Untreated wood** (eg 20 mm FSC plywood boards)
- **Protective equipment** (gloves, eye protection)
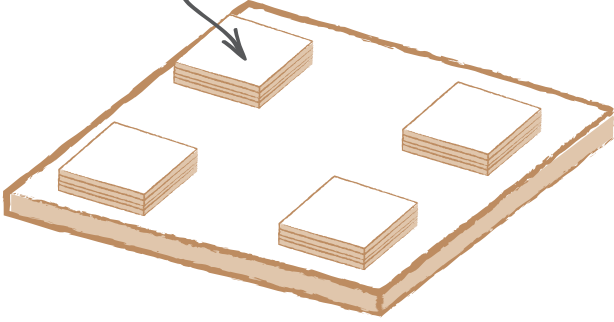- **Roofing felt/waterproof cover** (optional)

How to build a hedgehog house

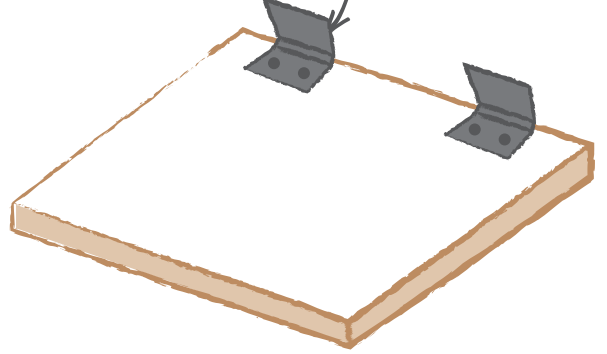### Step 1: Cut the untreated wood into the correct dimensions

Tunnel

Tunnel top — 17cm × 30cm
Tunnel side — 13cm × 30cm
Tunnel side — 13cm × 30cm
Tunnel base — 17cm × 30cm

Main sleeping area

Lid — 30cm × 40cm
Side — 26cm × 30cm
Back — 40cm × 30cm
Base — 40cm × 30cm
Front — 40cm × 13cm, 17cm, 17cm, 23cm
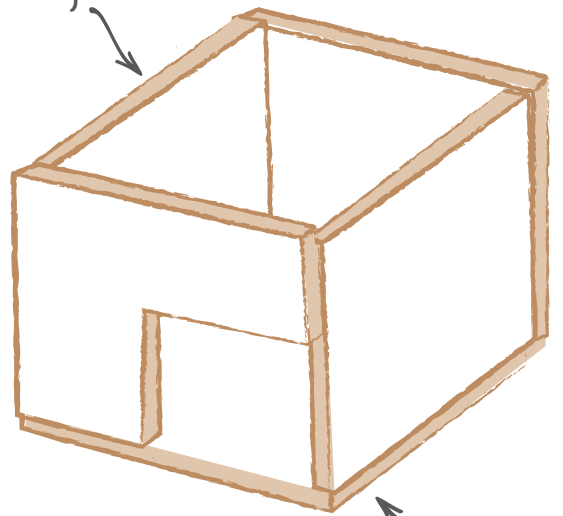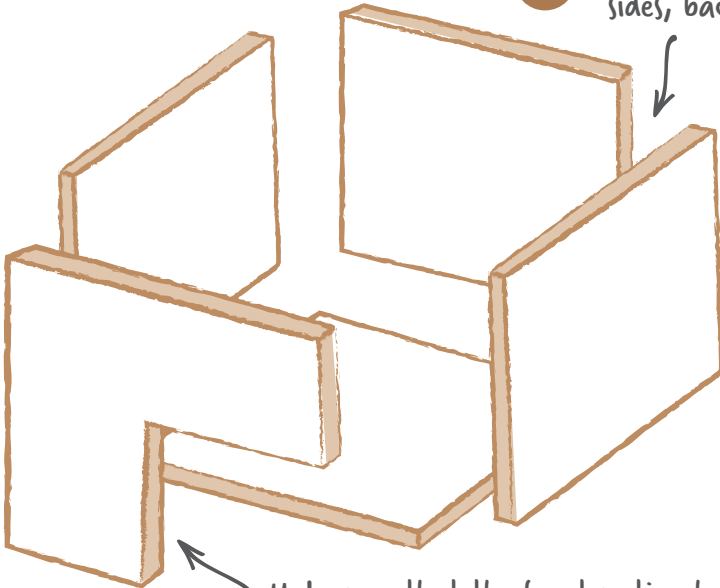Side — 30cm × 26cm
Feet — 8cm × 8cm

A Attach the feet to the base

B Attach the hinges to the lid

C Using nails or screws, fit the base, sides, back and front together

Make sure that the front section has the gap at the bottom, as this is where the tunnel will fit in

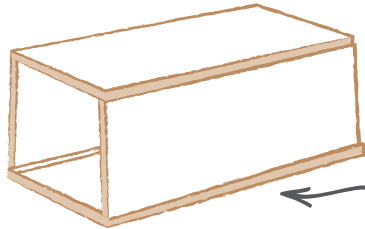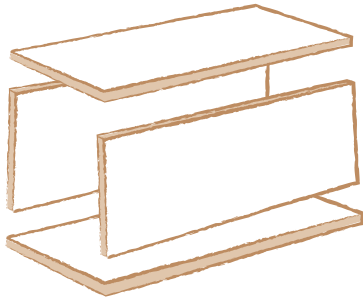Note that the sides, back and front sit on top of the base

D Attach the free side of the hinges to the inside of the back section
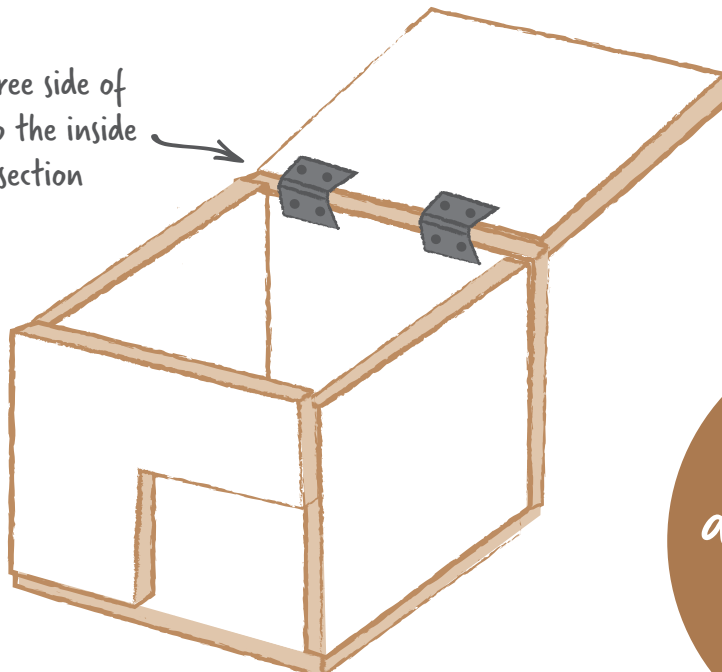
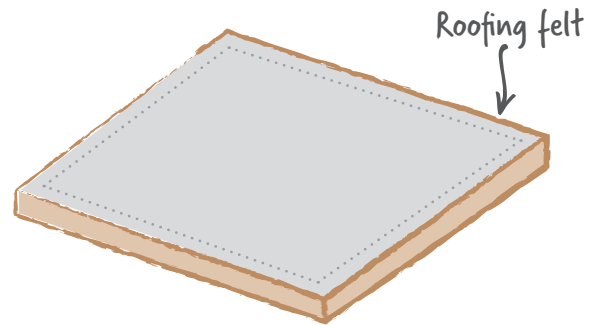Your sleeping area should now be complete!

Step 3: Build the tunnel

Using nails or screws, fit the base, sides and top of the tunnel together

Note that the sides of the tunnel sit on top of the base

Step 4: Optional – cover the top of your hedgehog house

Roofing felt

To make your hedgehog house more waterproof, you could cover the top of the main area and the tunnel in roofing felt or a similar waterproof material.

Step 5: Combine your sleeping area and tunnel to complete your hedgehog house!

Push the tunnel so that it fits inside the square gap in the front panel of the main sleeping area
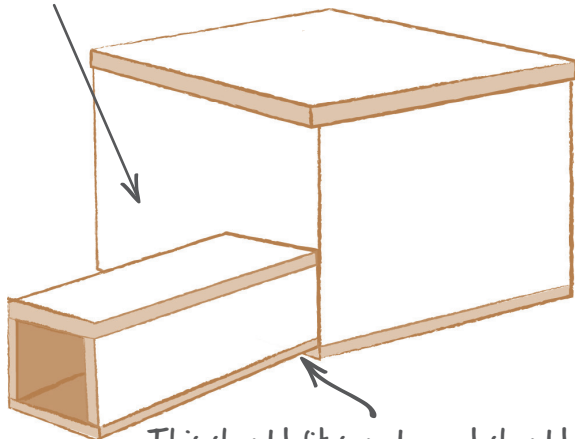
This should fit snugly and shouldn't need to be fixed on with nails

This tunnel should slope downwards slightly, so that hedgehogs can enter from ground level, and so that rainwater doesn't drain into the main sleeping area.

Step 6: Install your hedgehog house in your Naturespace

Place your hedgehog house in a quiet, shady area
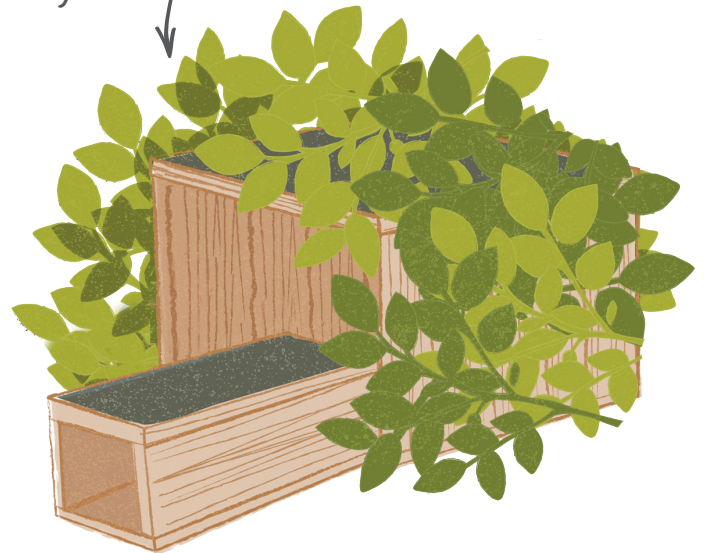
Hedgehogs prefer houses along boundaries, in sheltered locations. They also prefer back gardens, and are happy to be close to your house.

Based on designs by PTES

https://naturehood.uk