The Great Green Read

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Junkyard hotel

The brilliant bees are running out of places to live but you can **help bring the buzzing back** to Doncaster. Transform an **old plastic bottle** or **tin can into a paradise** for bees and bugs for a chance to win some luxurious honey and bee-friendly seeds

What you'll need:

- Plastic bottle or can (any size, but bigger is best!)
- Bamboo cane or plastic straws
- Scissors
- String

Top tip: Plant some bee-friendly flowers near the junkyard hotel. They love purple plants like lavender and alliums.

Steps

1. If you're using a plastic bottle, ask a grownup to help you cut off the spout. Cover any sharp edges with tape
2. Pierce a small hole in the bottom of the bottle or can. Try to do this close to an edge so that it will hang at an angle, then thread the string through
3. Cut your straws or bamboo canes to size so they won't stick out the bottle or can too far
4. Slide the bamboo or straws into the bottle until it's completely full – try and get them as tight as possible to stop them from falling out. Try putting some twigs in there too!
5. Hang your junkyard hotel in a sheltered spot at a slight angle so that it can drain if it gets wet. You might want to wait until spring to do this

Altneratively, send us your design for your very own Junkyard hotel. How would it be made? What materials would you use? What different rooms would there be? let your imaginations run wild!

You'll know if the bugs and bees are using your junkyard hotel when the ends of the straws are blocked by mud or leaves!