How to build a mini wildlife pond

You will need:

- a watertight container*
- old bricks, rocks and pebbles
- pond plants
- spade

* Is there anything that you can upcycle? It could be an old washing-up bowl, sink or even a plant pot. Aim for 20-30cm deep.

1. Choose a spot. Your pond will need light, but not full sunlight all day. You can dig a hole and sink your container, or just have it sitting on top.

2. If the container isn’t watertight, e.g. an old plant pot, then add a piece of pond liner.

3. Add a layer of gravel and rocks.

4. Fill your pond with rainwater (tap water contains chemicals).

5. Start planting... you only need two or three plants.

6. Now watch and wait! Wildlife will come to your pond of its own accord.

One vertical growing plant that reaches out of the water e.g. flowering rush

Use logs or stones to create a range of depths and a slope for creatures to climb in and out

One submerged plant e.g. hornwort or spiked water milfoil

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Don’t introduce frogs, fish or even water from another pond as this can spread disease.