

<p><b>Cow Parsley</b></p>	<p><b>Primrose</b></p>	<p><b>Buttercup</b></p>	<p><b>Wild Flower Identification</b></p>			
<p><b>Bluebell</b></p>	<p><b>Forget Me Not</b></p>	<p><b>Snowdrop</b></p>			<p><b>Dandelion</b></p>	<p><b>Daisy</b></p>
<p><b>Poppy</b></p>	<p><b>Cornflower</b></p>	<p><b>Foxglove</b></p>			<p><b>Red Clover</b></p>	<p><b>Cuckoo</b></p>
<p><b>Rosebay Willow</b></p>	<p><b>Wood Sorrel</b></p>	<p><b>Cowslip</b></p>			<p><b>Red Campion</b></p>	<p><b>Harebell</b></p>

You can find out more about UK wildflowers and how to take part in the Great British Wildflower Hunt by visiting - [www.plantlife.org.uk/wildflowerhunt](http://www.plantlife.org.uk/wildflowerhunt)

# Mini Wildflower Meadows in Schools



## Introduction

In creating mini wildflower meadows at your school you are supporting the diversity of the nature on your grounds as well as creating B-Lines for pollinating insects to visit.

B-Lines are designed to address the urgent need to create pollinator habitats. Over 3 million hectares of wildflower-rich grassland has been lost in England alone over the last 70 years, leading to widespread decline in bees, moths, and insects.

This decline in wildflower meadows is increasingly apparent in Peterborough. Since 1940, agricultural land covering Peterborough has increased from 60% to 80%. Much of this has been at the expense of wildflower-rich habitats.

This loss of wildflowers has led to half of our 27 bumblebee species declining, with three having already become extinct. Additionally, two thirds of our moths and 71% of our butterflies are also showing long-term declines. Much of our surviving wildflower-rich habitat now exists as just small fragments, leaving populations of insects isolated from each other, separated by intensively managed farmland and by our towns and cities.















As many insect species have a very limited ability to move and disperse and some bee species limited to a 300m radius, there is a major risk of them dying out as the small fragments of habitat they depend on are damaged or destroyed.

This is now your chance to be able to make a difference in support of nature by making seed bombs to plant your mini wildflower meadow.



Ladybug & Beetle Identification				
<b>2-Spot</b> 	<b>7-Spot</b> 	<b>9-Spotted</b> 		
<b>10-Spotted</b> 	<b>14-Spotted</b> 	<b>22-Spotted</b> 	<b>Eyed</b> 	<b>Harlequin</b> 
<b>Pine</b> 	<b>Kidney Spot</b> 	<b>Wasp</b> 	<b>Oil</b> 	<b>Pollen</b> 
<b>Stripped Longhorn</b> 	<b>Spotted Longhorn</b> 	<b>Red Solider</b> 	<b>Solider</b> 	<b>Thick Legged Flower</b> 

This is only a sample of the different pollinators you might find. Visit iNaturalist UK to help you identify more - [www.uk.inaturalist.org](http://www.uk.inaturalist.org)

Syrphus 	Drone 	Long 	<b>Other Pollinators Identification</b>	
Batman 	Marmalade 	Dainty 		
Bee 	Green Bottle 	Long Legged 	Noon 	Flies
German Social 	Median 	European Hornet 	Common Social 	Wasps

This is only a sample of the different pollinators you might find.  
Visit iSpot to help you identify more - [www.ispotnature.org](http://www.ispotnature.org)

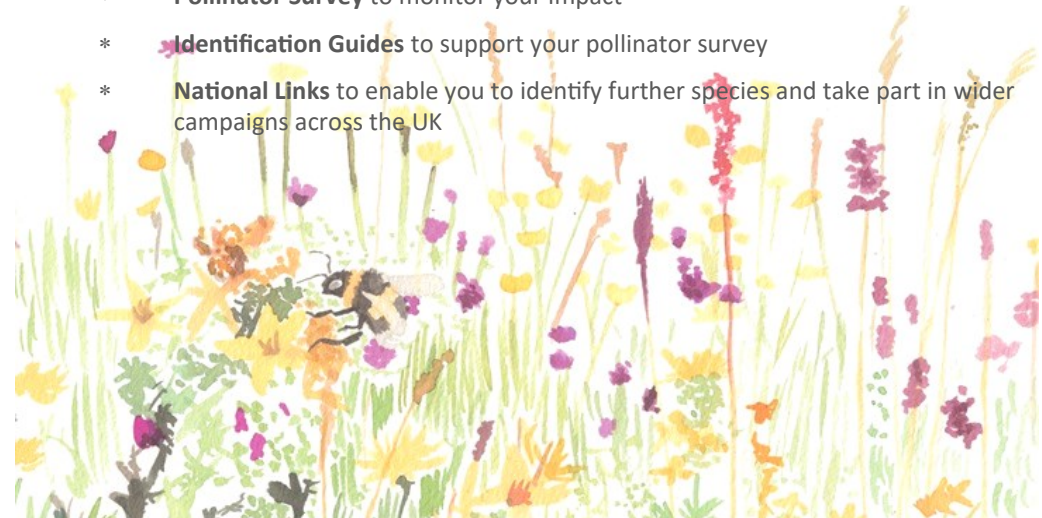
## To make seed bombs you will need

The below quantities would enable 30 participants to create approx. 6 seed bombs each, depending on the size.

- \* **Small Cup** to measure out your soil, clay & water (we would recommend an espresso sized cup) (use the same sized cup for all your measuring)
- \* **Tea Spoon** to measure out your seeds
- \* **Native Wildflower Seeds**
- \* **Peat Free Compost**
- \* **Clay or Flour**
- \* **String**
- \* **Tray or Bowl** each, to mix your seed bombs in
- \* **Water**

We have also included some useful resources as part of this booklet to help you monitor the difference you have made.

- \* **Pollinator Survey** to monitor your impact
- \* **Identification Guides** to support your pollinator survey
- \* **National Links** to enable you to identify further species and take part in wider campaigns across the UK



## How to make your seed bombs

- \* Use your cup to measure out 1 cup of clay/flour and 3 cups of soil into a tray or bowl
- \* Add a teaspoon of wildflower seeds
- \* Mix the dry mix together using your hands
- \* Measure out a cup of water and add gradually (you may not need all of it so add it a little at a time)
- \* When it has started to stick together roll into small balls (about the size of a large marble but no bigger than a golf ball) and leave to dry
- \* Once dry place them outside on top of your planting area (this should be clear soil and free of dense grass)

## The science of seed bombs




















The compost and clay protect the seeds from drying out, washing away, being eaten by birds or being blown away by the wind

As the weather breaks down the seed bomb, the compost and clay will allow the seed to root and take hold in the ground.



















Planting season for wildflowers is before the first frost in Autumn/Winter or after the last frost in Spring.



## Bee Identification

White Tailed 	Early 	Garden 		
Blackberry 	Great Yellow 	Tree 	Red Tailed 	Bumblebee
Common 	Brown Banded 	Moss 	Wool 	Carder Bee
Field 	Forest 	Southern 	Vestal 	Cuckoo Bee
Worker 	Drone 	Queen 	European 	Honey Bee

If you need help identifying the bees you see then the Bumblebee Conservation Trust can help. Visit then at - [www.bumblebeeconservation.org](http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org)

Orange Tip 	Brimstone 	Small Heath 	<h2>Butterfly Identification</h2>			
Peacock 	Tortoiseshell 	Red Admiral 			Small Copper 	Ringlet 
Speckled Wood 	Comma 	Painted Lady 			Gate Keeper 	Meadow Brown 
Common Blue 	Holly Blue 	Green Veined 			Large White 	Marbled White 

For more information on butterflies visit the Big Butterfly Count - [www.bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org)

## Monitoring the impact

Surveying the area where you will be planting your seed bombs is really important to be able to understand the impact they have had. Therefore, why not become **Pollinator Scientist**, it is really easy to do and should be done before planting and after your seeds have grown.

Here are some easy steps on how to do it and we have also included some identification guides to help you.

- \* Decide on the area you are going to plant your seed bombs
- \* Create a sample area by creating a square on the ground using a piece of string
- \* Watch the area for a set period of time - use the pollinator survey and identification sheets provided to keep a log of what you see
- \* Plant your seed bombs
- \* Revisit the area once your seeds have grown - complete the second pollinator survey
- \* Compare the difference between your first survey and the second one
- \* Discuss the differences you have noticed between your two surveys

You could even use your findings to contribute towards the national FIT survey (Flower-Insect Timed Count). Visit [www.ukpoms.org.uk/fit-counts](http://www.ukpoms.org.uk/fit-counts) for more information.



If you have enjoyed taking part in these activities please visit PECT's Education Natures School for more ideas you might like to get involved with at [www.pect.org.uk/services/education](http://www.pect.org.uk/services/education)



## Pollinator Survey 1

Name -	Date -	Time Started -	Time Completed-
Pollinator Name	Amount Seen	Flower Name	Amount Seen



## Pollinator Survey 2

Name -	Date -	Time Started -	Time Completed-
Pollinator Name	Amount Seen	Flower Name	Amount Seen