



Butterfly
Conservation

WILD SPACES

**HABITAT HEROES
CARD GAME**

Wondering what to include in your Wild Space?

The Wild Spaces Habitat Heroes Card Game can help you decide!

CATEGORIES EXPLAINED



Habitat heaven

This category is all about how valuable each Wild Space feature is for butterflies and moths. The higher the score, the more heavenly it is for them!



Needy or not?

Relates to whether the Wild Space feature needs a lot of looking after. The higher the score, the less work it needs.



Looking good

Simple! The nicer it looks, the higher it scores.



How long will it last?

In this category, the longer something is likely to last, the higher it scores.



Keeping costs down

For this category, the cheaper something is to make and look after, the higher it scores.

HOW TO PLAY

Play in pairs or groups of 4.

Whoever has won the most cards after 5 minutes is the winner!

1. Deal the cards out evenly between players.
2. One player starts off by choosing a category from the top card in their hand. All players read out their card's score for that category. Every category is scored out of 100.
3. The player with the highest score in that category wins the other people's cards, and gets to go first in the next round. If it's a tie between two players, pick another category for a face off!
4. Keep playing for 5 minutes, or until one player has won all the cards. Then shuffle the cards and play again.

GOOD LUCK!



MINI WILDFLOWER MEADOW



HABITAT HEAVEN

A mini meadow area is like heaven for butterflies and moths! All their favourite things in one place: nectar, caterpillar food and plenty of places to hide.

100



NEEDY OR NOT?

Needs some work to prepare the area before sowing seeds, but once a meadow is growing, all you need to do is mow it once or twice a year.

68



LOOKING GOOD

With every year that goes by, a mini meadow will get more colourful and varied.

99



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

If they're looked after properly, meadows can thrive for years and years.

84



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Some big tools may be needed to prepare the area but, once that's been done, wildflower seed is quite cheap to buy.

60



TYRE PLANTERS



HABITAT HEAVEN

Plants in tyres can provide some nectar and caterpillar food for butterflies and moths.

64



NEEDY OR NOT?

Just make sure you keep the plants watered and pick off any dead flower heads.

78



LOOKING GOOD

Paint your tyres with bright colours to make them look nicer!

66



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Tyres are very sturdy and should last for quite a long time.

71



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Worn out tyres can be picked up from garages for free! Then you just need a few plants to fill them up.

90



RAISED BEDS



HABITAT HEAVEN

Plants in raised beds can provide nectar and caterpillar food for butterflies and moths. Bigger shrubs can provide shelter too!

76



NEEDY OR NOT?

Raised beds will need to be mended or replaced if they start to rot. The plants in them will need some care and attention too!

66



LOOKING GOOD

Raised beds can be planted with lots of bright and colourful plants!

89



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

If they're well made, raised beds can last a good few years before they start to rot.

70



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Raised beds can be quite expensive to buy or build, unless you can get some of the materials for free.

59



POTS



HABITAT HEAVEN

Plants in pots can provide nectar and caterpillar food for butterflies and moths, even in small spaces!

64



NEEDY OR NOT?

Just make sure you keep the plants watered and pick off any dead flower heads.

79



LOOKING GOOD

Pots can be planted with lots of bright and colourful plants!

88



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Pots should last for years if you're careful not to smash them! You might need to replace the plants from time to time though.

77



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Pots can be quite expensive to buy, but keep an eye out in charity or junk shops for cheap second hand ones!

78



BUG HOTEL



HABITAT HEAVEN

Butterflies, moths and their caterpillars love to hide in bug hotels when it's cold and rainy. You could even include some plants in pots when you're building it so your bug hotel provides nectar as well!

64



NEEDY OR NOT?

Bug hotels are quite easy to build, and you can design them any way you like. Just make sure you leave plenty of nooks and crannies for insects and top up sticks and leaves from time to time.

86



LOOKING GOOD

We think bug hotels look pretty cool, but if you disagree, you could brighten yours up by including flowers in pots in your design.

55



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Some rebuilding work will be needed every so often.

72



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Any old bits of scrap wood can be used to make a bug hotel. The gaps can then be filled with free things - dead leaves, sticks and pine cones.

92



FLOWER BORDER



HABITAT HEAVEN

Flower borders can provide butterflies and moths with nectar, caterpillar food, and shelter as well if you plant a couple of bigger plants.

81



NEEDY OR NOT?

Flower borders need quite a lot of weeding to keep them looking nice!

62



LOOKING GOOD

Flower borders can be planted with lots of bright and colourful plants!

97



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Once they're dug, flower borders aren't going anywhere! Unless you let the weeds take over...

84



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

The main cost is the effort it takes to dig them!

81



HEDGE



HABITAT HEAVEN

Hedges are fantastic habitat for butterflies and moths because they provide nectar, caterpillar food and shelter all in one place!

98



NEEDY OR NOT?

Butterflies and moths prefer a wild hedge, which means less trimming!

63



LOOKING GOOD

A good hedge is made up of a beautiful mixture of colours and textures.

93



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Some hedgerows in the countryside have been around for hundreds of years!

95



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

You'll need to buy quite a lot of shrubs and small trees to make a hedge.

48



TREES



HABITAT HEAVEN

Many butterfly and moth species depend on different types of trees for their survival. Caterpillars eat the leaves while carefully camouflaged adults hide on the trunk.

97



NEEDY OR NOT?

Baby trees need quite a lot of care and attention to make sure they grow healthy and strong.

64



LOOKING GOOD

Trees come in all different shapes and sizes, all unique and beautiful!

95



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

The oldest tree in the UK is thought to be over 2,000 years old! It lives in a churchyard in Scotland.

100



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Young trees are not too expensive to buy. Sometimes, organisations like The Woodland Trust will give trees to schools and community groups for free!

61



LIVING WALL



HABITAT HEAVEN

Living walls can provide nectar and caterpillar food for butterflies and moths. If you plant climbing plants, these will also provide shelter.

72



NEEDY OR NOT?

Living walls can be a bit tricky to water, but looking after the plants is no different to looking after plants in pots or raised beds.

69



LOOKING GOOD

Plants for a living wall need to be carefully chosen, but if you plan well, the results can be stunning!

90



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

If they're looked after, living walls can thrive for years!

71



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Living wall pots are quite expensive, and you'll need lots of plants! Choose plants that come back year after year to keep costs down.

47



HANGING BASKETS



HABITAT HEAVEN

Butterflies will love the nectar and you could even plant some caterpillar foodplants in them like nasturtiums.

64



NEEDY OR NOT?

Just keep on top of the watering and snip off any dead flower heads!

79



LOOKING GOOD

Hanging baskets are a great way to bring flowers to even the smallest spaces.

89



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Good quality hanging baskets should last quite a long time.

69



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

A good hanging basket shouldn't cost more than £10, and you won't need much compost to fill them up.

78



DEAD HEDGE



HABITAT HEAVEN

A mixture of branches, twigs and dead leaves arranged into a hedge shape, dead hedges provide excellent shelter for butterflies and moths.

70



NEEDY OR NOT?

You'll just need to top up the branches and leaves from time to time.

87



LOOKING GOOD

Ok, so they don't look as nice as a wildflower meadow... but 'deadwood habitats' are very important for butterflies and moths too.

49



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

A dead hedge will last for as long as you keep topping it up with more dead stuff.

76



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Just use whatever dead wood and leaves you can find!

100



LOG PILE



HABITAT HEAVEN

Butterflies, moths and their caterpillars love to hide in log piles, especially when it's cold and wet.

61



NEEDY OR NOT?

Making a log pile is easy! Just add more logs as they start to rot down.

87



LOOKING GOOD

Stack them up neatly and your log pile will look good!

49



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

As long as you can find new logs when you need them, you can keep your log pile going!

69



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Are there already some old logs lying around at your school that could be used?

100



LEAF PILE



HABITAT HEAVEN

Butterflies and moths love to hide under piles of leaves, especially over winter. Some species have even evolved to look exactly like dead leaves when their wings are shut, making them harder for predators to spot!

61



NEEDY OR NOT?

Just keep adding more leaves throughout the autumn and winter, as they will rot down quite quickly.

82



LOOKING GOOD

Ok, so leaf piles don't look as nice as flower beds...but they're important too!

44



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Leaves rot down quite quickly, so you'll need a good supply of leaves if you want to keep your pile going.

68



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

If there's none at your school, fill up bags of leaves that have fallen on the ground in the park.

100



UNDISTURBED WILD AREA



HABITAT HEAVEN

Leave the weeds and let the grass grow long! Lots of plants generally thought of as 'weeds' are actually great for butterflies and moths, like stinging nettles!

96



NEEDY OR NOT?

The beauty of a wild area is that you don't need to do anything to it! Sometimes, sitting back and letting nature go wild is the best thing you can do.

100



LOOKING GOOD

It might look a bit untidy, but butterflies and moths will absolutely love it! And who knows what wildflowers might crop up...

60



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

A space will be wild for as long as you let it!

94



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Letting an area go wild doesn't cost a penny! Is there a small area of your school grounds that you could give back to nature and see what happens?

100



WINDOW BOX



HABITAT HEAVEN

Window boxes can be planted full of lovely, tasty nectar plants!

65



NEEDY OR NOT?

Water the plants in your window box regularly and snip off any dead flower heads.

79



LOOKING GOOD

When space is limited, window boxes can bring a splash of colour!

79



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Window boxes should last a good few years, but they may start to look a bit worn after a while.

77



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Window boxes vary in price a lot, from cheap and basic to expensive and fancy!

71



NEAT AND TIDY LAWN



HABITAT HEAVEN

Perfectly neat and tidy lawns don't offer butterflies and moths anything. No flowers to get nectar from, no weeds for caterpillars to eat, and no long grass to hide in.

0



NEEDY OR NOT?

If you want to keep your lawn looking perfectly neat and tidy all year round, you'll never have a day off!

10



LOOKING GOOD

Ok, so it looks neat, but it's a bit boring without any flowers or wildlife!

32



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

The real question is, how long can you keep up with all that mowing? And it is really worth it if no wildlife can enjoy it?

50



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

Keeping a lawn looking perfectly neat and tidy requires some expensive kit!

36



VEGETABLE PATCH



HABITAT HEAVEN

Butterflies and moths love vegetable patches, especially if some nectar-rich plants are planted amongst the veggies. If caterpillars try to eat your cabbages, think about planting some separate cabbage plants for them or some nasturtiums, and moving any you spot onto those instead.

69



NEEDY OR NOT?

Vegetable patches need quite a lot of looking after to keep the area weeded and the plants healthy. Starting small is usually a good idea!

58



LOOKING GOOD

As well as being lovely and leafy, lots of vegetable plants will also grow pretty flowers. Add some wild-flowers to your patch as well for even more colour!

84



HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Keep up with the weeding, and research what to plant in each season!

70



KEEPING COSTS DOWN

You don't need anything fancy to grow vegetables. They can be grown in flower beds, pots or containers.

73



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