



FEEDING STATIONS

Sometimes hedgehogs struggle to find enough natural food in the wild to thrive, but the good news is we can provide a little extra food to support them - this is called supplementary feeding. There are several times throughout the year when hedgehogs often need a bit more help - during very cold and very hot weather, after hibernation, and during the breeding season. It is a nice idea to provide food and water all year round though as you never know what little visitor might need it!

They will still be eating caterpillars, worms, slugs, beetles, and other yummy things, so the food you leave out is only to supplement this. It is best for the hedgehog if you provide a balanced diet - no 'treat' foods! If you provide just the following you will be helping your hedgehogs become big, healthy adults:

- A shallow bowl of water - the most important bit, especially during hot spells and when hogs wake up from hibernation
- Dry food - hedgehogs love cat and kitten biscuits, eating the kibble helps keep their teeth clean too!
- Wet food - meat-based dog or cat food (ideally loaf, pate, or in jelly)

To make sure it's just the hedgehogs that eat the food you leave out, why not make a feeding station like the ones pictured below? Have a look online for 'Hedgehog Feeding Station' and you will see there are loads of ways you can design them, likely using things you already have!



This station is pegged into the ground, but a brick on top will also stop it from moving!

The tree in front of the entrance means bigger animals can't get in



The tunnel stops cats and other animals from eating all the food inside!

Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital

Shepreth Wildlife Conservation Charity

www.swccharity.org