



# biodiversity RECORDING



# Hedgehog

**(Erinaceus europaeus)**

Hedgehogs are perhaps one of our most instantly recognisable mammals. When disturbed, they can roll up into a tight ball with their spines facing outward for protection.

Hedgehogs are almost entirely nocturnal, sleeping by day among vegetation at the bottom of hedgerows or similar places. They can be quite noisy when foraging and can be heard snuffling as they search for slugs, worms, and a wide range of insects. They will also eat fruit and fungi.

If you are lucky enough to have a hedgehog in your garden, why not give it a helping hand. Plain dog or cat meat is a good feeding supplement and a few cat biscuits may also be eaten. This will be of particular benefit in the autumn as hedgehogs build up bodyweight for hibernating from November to March.



**Help your  
local biodiversity-  
get recording!**

Recording what species you see is an important way you can help your local biodiversity. To find out what you can do for local biodiversity, contact the Biodiversity Officer through your Council or on

**[www.biodiversityni.com](http://www.biodiversityni.com)**

**This project is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund 'Your Heritage' Programme**



**LOTTERY FUNDED**



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