

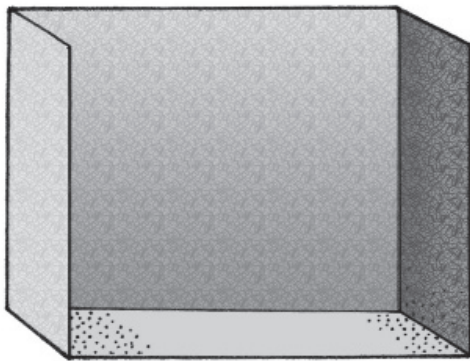
Create a hedge

Herb Robert is a hedge/woodland plant that flowers in April.

Find some growing in a hedge near your school.

Smell the flower – it has a pungent smell like that of a fox. It tastes horrible and slugs, woodlice and snails never eat it.

Following your fieldtrips to a hedge this year, you can build up a model hedge with four layers in class.



You will need: a large box of the size and shape of a large cornflakes box. Cut off one large side and one end. Stand it vertically on its other end, as illustrated.

This is where you assemble your model hedge. You may wish to cover the box and paint it green. On the bottom floor of the box is the litter layer. This will be moss and dead leaves.

On top of this is the ground layer where the flowers grow. Collect some Herb Robert as well as other hedge flowers for this layer.

The shrub layer and canopy layer of the tall trees in the hedge complete the model hedge.

These can be collected on this fieldtrip and the whole model hedge assembled back in class.