

## Researching UK Mammals under threat

In the film "Fact File 8- The European Hedgehog" you learned how the loss of habitats threatens species such as the hedgehog.

### Further Research- Activity 1

There are 3 major factors, discussed in the film, which lead to habitat loss.

1. Habitat Fragmentation (e.g. When hedgehog populations can't reach other hedgehog populations to breed)
2. Habitat Destruction (e.g. When hedges are removed or roads built)
3. Over predation (e.g. By badgers)

Research these reasons for habitat loss -can you find other examples of other animals and birds affected by habitat loss?

**Activity 2-**The hedgehog is not the only UK mammal under threat. The table below lists some others. Find out about these animals and why they are under threat.

Water Vole	
Hazel Dormouse	
Grey Long Eared Bat	
Red Squirrel	



Every year hundreds of hedgehogs are caught by our pet dogs. Watch out for hedgehogs in your garden, especially in the evenings and keep your dogs away from them.

**Activity 3**-this table lists some of the things we can do to encourage hedgehog survival. Complete the second column with the reasons these actions will help the hedgehog.

What can you do to encourage wildlife?	How will this help hedgehogs survive?
Create holes in garden fences	
Leave suitable food for hedgehogs	
Leave piles of leaves and branches for hedgehogs	
Check before burning garden rubbish	
Create ponds with steps	

A pond will encourage many insects, birds and animals- including hedgehogs to your garden- it should have a ramp or a shallow end so that animals can access the water.



### Websites which may help your research

<https://www.mammal.org.uk/>

Extinction: Quarter of UK mammals 'under threat' - BBC News

Endangered KS3-4 (colchester-zoo.com)

Hedgehog (Erinaceus europaeus) - Woodland Trust

<http://ypte.org.uk/>