



5<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## **School's out for summer with British Garden Centres outdoor activities!**

**School's out, the sun is shining, and it's time for creative fun! Why not spend your summer days doing fun activities and enjoying your garden? These DIY projects are enjoyable and a fantastic way to connect with nature and appreciate the outdoors. British Garden Centres has put together the perfect gardening fun for the summer holidays**

### **Upcycled Planters**

Give new life to old containers by turning them into stylish planters. Repurpose items like teacups, watering cans, or even boots to create unique homes for your plants. Get creative with paint, decoupage, or mosaic tiles to add a personal touch.

Create a focal point with a striking centrepiece. A tall dahlia, sunflower or geranium will add height and drama to your planter, while a small conifer or fern offers a bold, green statement. For a burst of colour and year-round interest, fill the pot's edges with trailing petunias or fuchsias.

### **DIY Garden Markers**

Add a touch of charm to your garden with homemade plant markers. Paint colourful designs on stones, repurpose old spoons or forks, or create wooden labels with whimsical shapes. Let your imagination run wild as you transform ordinary objects into practical and decorative garden accessories.

Once your stone markers are dry and your little Picasso is thrilled with their design, it's essential to protect your hard work. Seal your stones with a good outdoor varnish to safeguard your paint from rain and harmful UV rays. This extra step will ensure your handcrafted garden markers remain vibrant and beautiful for years to come.

### **Make your own containers**

Transform your outdoor space into a vibrant oasis with the art of container gardening. There are endless possibilities of container options, including hanging baskets, window boxes, and creatively repurposed items. Visit your local store to see the wide array of styles and colours of containers for your summer holiday planter.



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Or why not experiment with making your own? Transform everyday items into vibrant planters with your kids! Repurpose milk cartons, tin cans, plastic bottles, or even old boots as creative homes for plants. Encourage their imagination by providing paints, markers, and stickers to decorate their masterpieces. Plant easy-to-grow herbs, succulents, or wildflowers to watch nature's magic unfold. Upcycling saves resources and fosters a love for gardening and creativity in young minds.

### **Make your own bird feeders and baths**

Attract feathered friends to your garden with homemade bird feeders and bathhouses. Use recycled materials like milk cartons, plastic bottles, or pinecones as the base for your creations. Fill them with birdseed and watch as your feathered visitors enjoy your handiwork. For a bird bath, simply place a shallow, watertight dish on a sturdy base, like bricks or a pedestal, in a sunny spot away from predators. Add water and pebbles for bird perches. Regular cleaning is essential to keep your feathered visitors healthy. For a decorative touch, upcycle an old bowl or plate, or even create a mosaic design and enjoy watching your garden come alive with birds!

### **Bug Hotels**

Consider building a bug hotel to create a welcoming environment for beneficial insects. You can use a variety of natural materials such as sticks, leaves, pinecones, and bark to construct a comfortable and inviting home for the beneficial insects in your garden. By providing this shelter, you can encourage the presence of these tiny garden helpers and contribute to a healthy and balanced ecosystem in your outdoor space.

### **Fairy Gardens**

Unleash your child's imagination by creating enchanting fairy gardens within small pots or containers. With carefully selected miniature houses, intricately detailed furniture, and an array of vibrant and captivating plants, you can craft a captivating and whimsical miniature world. Infuse a touch of magic by incorporating the shimmer of glitter, the lushness of moss, and a variety of other natural elements to bring your fairy garden to life.

### **Make your own seed bomb**

Why not create your own seed bombs and help spread wildflowers in your community? You can mix wildflower seeds with clay or compost to form small balls, and then toss them in your garden or share them with friends. This simple DIY project can make a positive impact on the local environment and bring beauty to your community.



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**Amy Stubbs, Projects and Development Manager at British Garden Centres said:** “We believe that gardening is the perfect way for children to connect with nature, learn about responsibility, and have fun this summer. We aim to inspire the next generation of green-fingered enthusiasts and activities offer a fantastic opportunity to explore nature and have fun.”

**ENDS**

**WORD COUNT: 757**

**Notes to Editors:**

About the business:

British Garden Centres (BGC) is the UK’s largest family-owned garden centre group with 65 centres around the country. The group is owned and led by The Stubbs family, who also own and operate Woodthorpe Leisure Park in Lincolnshire.

BGC was launched in 1987 with the opening of Woodthorpe Garden Centre by brothers Charles and Robert Stubbs. Since 2018 it has expanded rapidly with the acquisition of 50 garden centres allowing it to grow from its heartland to the business it is now with 65 garden centres spread from Carmarthen to Ramsgate, Wimborne to East Durham.

The group has a team of 2,700 colleagues working across the garden centres, restaurants, growing nurseries, distribution centres, Woodthorpe Leisure Park, and Woody’s Restaurant & Bar.

**Social Media**

Facebook: British Garden Centres

Twitter: @BGCentres

Instagram: @BritishGardenCentres

Website: [www.britishgardencentres.com](http://www.britishgardencentres.com)

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