

# WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES IN YOUR GARDEN, SCHOOL GROUNDS OR ALLOTMENT

Trees and hedges provide habitats for reptiles and amphibians

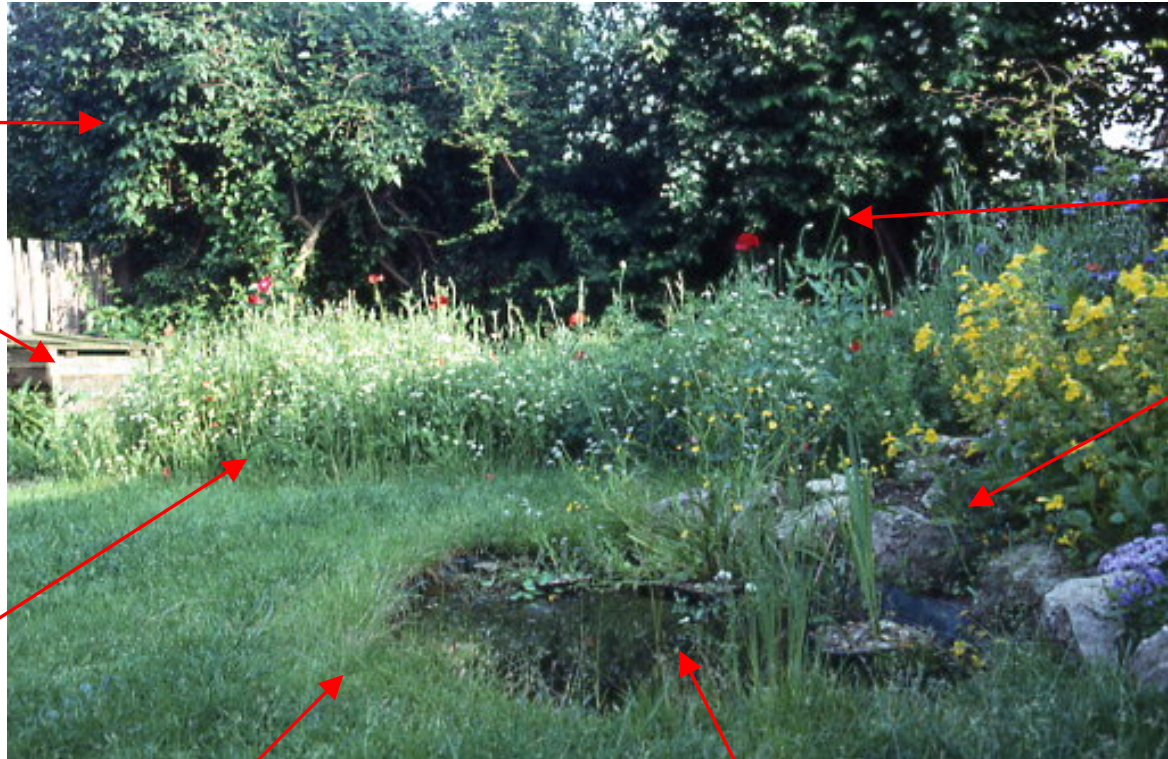
An open bottomed compost bin can provide habitat for slow-worms and a place for grass snakes to lay their eggs

**A wildlife garden will provide habitat for the bugs and other animals that amphibians and reptiles eat**

Areas of uncut rough grass provide cover from predators and somewhere to hunt for food



You can put mats, boards or tiles down to help you find slow-worms



Leave edges of pond unmown for when froglets leave the pond in early summer

Un-shaded pond with sloping sides and shallow edges for frogs and deeper water for toads to breed in. Ponds must be free of fish for frogs and newts but toads and fish may live alongside each other.

- Look out for the arrival of frogs, toads or newts at your pond in the spring
- Count newts at night with a torch
- Count the spawn in your pond
- Watch the tadpoles develop
- Look for the first sightings of froglets/toadlets in the early summer
- Build a compost heap for slow-worms and grass snakes
- Join your local amphibian and reptile group ([www.arg-uk.org.uk](http://www.arg-uk.org.uk))
- Take part in a garden survey for reptiles and amphibians by logging on to [www.narrs.org.uk](http://www.narrs.org.uk)

Animals are more likely to move into your garden if it is next to woodland, parkland, railways or other open areas

Logs, rocks and plants provide places to hide and to hibernate



Areas of brick/rubble/logs provide places for both amphibians and reptiles to hide