Munching Caterpillars

How to build a moth trap

What you need

- A grown-up to help you

- One sheet of 4 mm plywood cut into:
  - one 40cm square - base,
  - two 30cm x 40cm - ends,
  - two 30cm x 39cm - sides,
  - one 7cm x 39cm - support for light.

- One sheet of 2 mm Perspex cut into:
  - two 30cm x 39cm,

- A 2cm square baton cut into:
  - two 35cm lengths - at bottom of ends,
  - two 39cm lengths - at bottom of sides,
  - four 25cm lengths - up edges,
  - four 6.5cm lengths - two for Perspex support, two for light.

- Two egg trays or 6 to 8 half-dozen sized egg boxes.

- A moth trap light fitting set. We strongly recommend you buy these electronics ready wired and from a reputable supplier.

- Glue or nails.

What to do

1. Glue or nail the two 39cm batons to the edges of the base.

2. Glue or nail the two 35cm batons to the base onthe other edges.

3. Glue or nail the four sides to the batons on the base, then glue or nail the four 25cm batons upright into the corners.

4. Hammer two nails into each 6.5cm baton to form the supports for the Perspex sheets.

5. Glue or nail these batons onto the two ends of the box, centrally 15cm above the base.

6. Put the egg boxes inside the trap and slide the Perspex sheets in so they rest against the nails.

7. Assemble the electronics according to the manufacturer's instructions.

8. Drill a hole in the centre of the plywood support for the light bulb. Screw the bulb into place on the support.

9. Glue or nail the other two 6.5cm batons above the supports for the Perspex sheets, 6cm down from the top of the box.

10. Glue or nail the plywood light bulb support onto these supporting batons.

11. If you will be using your trap when there is a chance of rain you can create a rain guard like the one in the picture from Perspex and wooden dowels. This will stop the hot bulb breaking if it rains and also protect the moths inside.
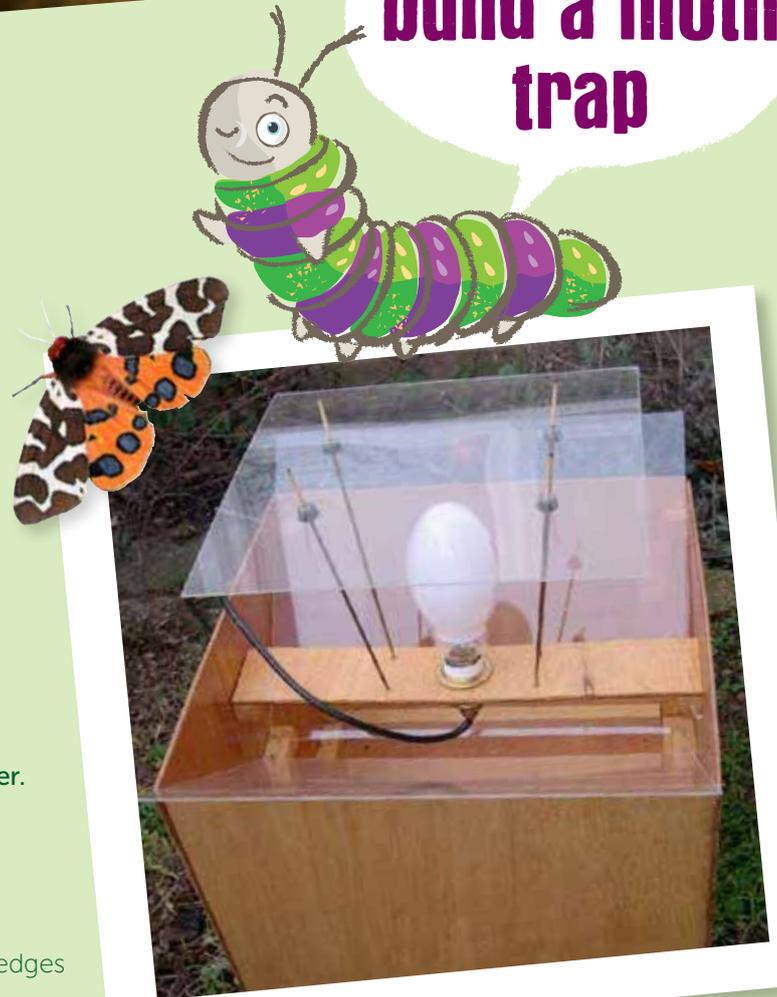
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