

# Survey guide

# Tree beating

Tree beating is used to look at invertebrates in trees or large bushes. This survey is often easier to do in pairs.

## Equipment

- A beating collection net (an old bedsheet works well. White is a good choice as insects will be easier to spot.)
- A large sturdy stick
- Bug pots or plastic containers
- Pen and pencil to record your findings
- A magnifying glass can be useful

## Method

- Place your net or sheet under your chosen tree. If you are using a net, you can hold it or you can place it on the ground if the tree or bush is a bit smaller.
- Use the stick to hit the tree so that the branches shake and any insects fall into your net or onto your sheet. You can also shake the branches by hand if you prefer.
- You might want to collect some insects in your bug pots so you can identify them more easily.

## Considerations

- If you are surveying in several areas, make sure to use the same number of shakes or hits for each site. This means that your surveys are consistent.
- It's important to be careful if you catch any butterflies or day-flying moths as their wings are very delicate.
- Be careful removing any insects like bees from your net or sheet as they can sting.

