

## Hedgehog Highway

“I have a project for us,” says Dad.

“What?” I ask.

“We’re going to make a hedgehog highway!” he says. That sounds fun.

But what is it?

Ever since we moved to England, we’ve loved hedgehogs. Sometimes we see them in the backyard of our new house. They are small and prickly. They roll into balls when they see us coming.

Dad explains that there are not as many hedgehogs as there used to be. People are taking over hedgehog habitats with their houses and stores. There are more roads and cars, which are dangerous for hedgehogs.

Dad heard that one way to help protect hedgehogs is to build them a special highway. The highway connects green spaces between people’s yards. That way the hedgehogs can find food and shelter without going near the road.

The easiest way to build a hedgehog highway is to make a hole in your fence. The hedgehog can go from your backyard to your neighbor’s backyard. Some people make multiple holes in different places in their yard. They might also add ramps, food, and nesting areas.



All over England there are more than 120,000 hedgehog highways that connect 240,000 yards. One village in Oxfordshire has over 60 connected houses in their hedgehog highway! Dad and I are starting the first hedgehog highway in our town. Time to make holes and spread the word!



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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where does the narrator live?
  - a. United States
  - b. Germany
  - c. England
  - d. Japan
  
2. How do you build a hedgehog highway?
  - a. Make a road
  - b. Make a hole in your fence
  - c. Make a house
  - d. Make a cage
  
3. Why do people create hedgehog highways?
  - a. So hedgehogs don't have to go near the road
  - b. To protect hedgehogs
  - c. So hedgehogs won't roll into balls
  - d. A and B
  
4. At the end of the passage, the narrator says it's time to "spread the word!" What does that mean?
  - a. Time to tell people about hedgehog highways
  - b. Time to write about hedgehogs
  - c. Time to spread food out for the hedgehogs
  - d. Time to talk to the hedgehogs

Instructions for teachers:

These questions can be used to assess understanding of the reading passage.

The item in bold is the correct answer for each question.

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