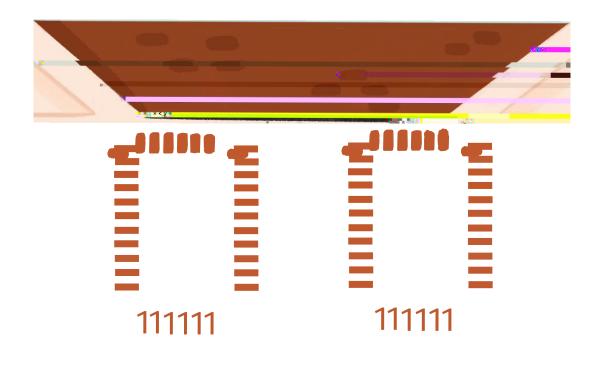
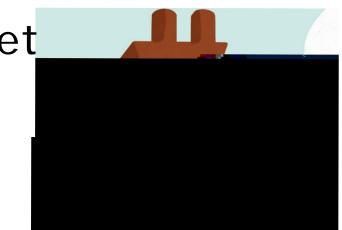


## Front Gardens Good for you, your home and the planet









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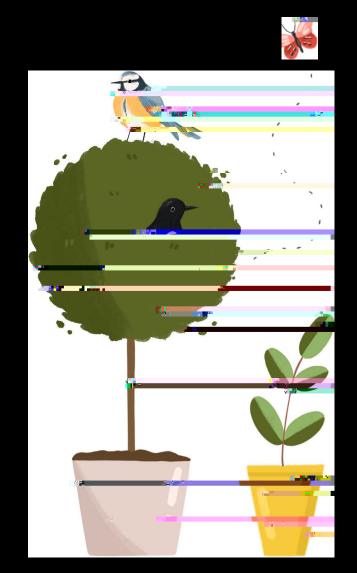


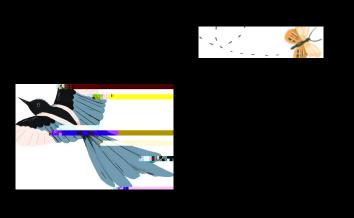
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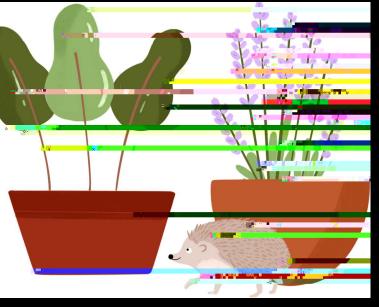
Front gardening is good for the planet. Flash flooding is becoming a greater threat in many areas of the UK, including in streets that never suffered flooding before. Part of the problem is that very heavy showers drop a large volume of water. This lands on hard surfaces with nowhere to go but the drains, which quickly become overwhelmed. Lawns and flowerbeds capture the water and allow it to gradually trickle away, filtering out pollution on the way.

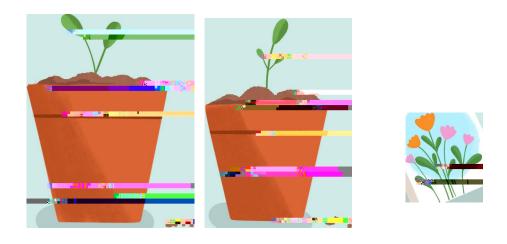
### Greenery allows nature to thrive - even a few tubs with plants allow more insects which in turn will feed

birds. More planting in front gardens can provide space for bees and other useful pollinators to thrive. Hedging is particularly good at providing a home for small birds and a multitude of other tiny creatures who work a G = I R  $\hat{e}$ 









#### The cheapest way to get started is to get a container, gardens. A packets of seeds costs as little as £2, a bag of compost £5.

The easiest way to get started is to buy a ready planted tub with a shrub and flowers.

You can get more information from the Royal Horticultural Society

## How can I get started?

Having a front garden does not need much space or money and you don't have to dig up the drive! Green fingers are not required. Start small and learn as you go.

Plant in April or May to have an attractive, social space for the summer. Or plant in autumn for spring flowers.

If you have a flower bed or lawn, you're ready to start - you could add a low-maintenance shrub or tree. But if not, troughs and pots can be the best way to begin. Even if the front space will be shared with cars and bins, there will still be space for a few pots or a climber to make it look nicer.



compost and some seeds or cuttings from a neighbour who







#### Health of the Public

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