

Life Cycle of a Hedgehog

Birth

Baby hedgehogs are called hoglets. They are born early in the summer. The mother hedgehog finds food to bring back for the hoglets.

June

Foraging

The hoglets go foraging for food with their mother at three or four weeks old.

July

Exploring

Young hoglets begin to explore the world alone.

August

Autumn births

Some hedgehogs have a second litter of hoglets. It is harder for these hoglets to survive because the weather is colder and there is less food.

September

Preparing for hibernation

Hedgehogs eat as much as possible and they build a nest ready for their hibernation.

October

Hibernation

Hedgehogs stay in their nest all winter to keep warm. They only move if they are disturbed or if the weather is warmer than expected.

November

to

March

Coming out of hibernation

Hedgehogs begin to leave their nests. They have lost some of their body weight during their hibernation so they are very hungry and thirsty.

March

Building a new nest

Hedgehogs begin to leave their nests.

April

Babies

Hedgehogs are pregnant for around four weeks and they have litters of five to seven hoglets.

May