







You can help feed the birds in your garden in a number of ways.

For example, bird tables, bird feeders and nest boxes.



Cardboard roll bird feeder

You will need:

- A cardboard tube (a kitchen roll is perfect)
- Two long sticks or skewers
- Some lard or suet
- Birdseed
- A piece of string

First, make four holes in one end of your cardboard tube large enough for your sticks or skewers, but not so large that the sticks slide out. Make sure the holes opposite each other line up so that you can thread your stick through.

Next, make two small holes opposite each other in the other end of your tube.

Use a knife to cover your roll in lard or suet. Vegetarian varieties are good too.

Roll the tube in bird seed so that the seed sticks to the lard.

Finally, carefully thread the sticks through to make a cross shape, and attached a piece of string to the two top holes.

Then, you're ready to hang your feeder outside!



Orange bird feeder

You will need:

- A large orange
- String
- Assorted seeds

This one is really simple.

Cut a large orange in half and scoop out the insides.

Then, thread two pieces of string through the orange so that it hangs upright.

Fill the orange with whatever bird food you fancy. You could stick with birdseed or try mealworms, suet, dried fruit or even leftovers, such as, cheese or cake.





Homemade fat cake

You will need:

- Suet or lard
- Assorted nuts and seeds
- An old yoghurt pot

You can blend your own secret ingredients for this one and see which the birds like best.

Melt the suet or lard in a bowl (you can use vegetarian lard if you wish).

Mix in seeds, oatmeal, dried fruit, cheese or cake.

Make a small hole in the base of a yoghurt pot and run a string through.

Tip the mixture into the yoghurt pot. Run the tail of the string through the centre of the mixture so that it will be firmly fixed in the middle when set.

Leave in the fridge until set.

When the cake is set, pop it out of the yoghurt pot and hang it in your garden.



Fancy something a little more adventurous?

How about making your own bird table?

Where to put a bird table:

You don't have to have a garden – a feeding tray can attract birds to a balcony or a windowsill, even on a block of flats.



You will need:

Material – Wood may look most natural, but metal or plastic may be easier to clean.
The post – The smoother and straighter the post, the harder it is for cats and squirrels to climb.
Safety – Check there are no sharp edges, or moving joints, in which a bird could be trapped.
Design – A basic platform with edges and drainage channels with or without a roof is by far the best.

Nest boxes

Making your own bird box is an excellent substitute for a tree hole, and you can get as creative as you like with the design.

Decide on the best location for your nest box.



You will need:

Material – Wood may look most natural, but metal or plastic may be easier to clean. Safety – Check there are no sharp edges, or moving joints, in which a bird could be trapped. Design – A small hole at the front for the birds to enter.



Please ask your adult for permission before making your bird feeder.

Please complete your designs by Wednesday 10th July.

You may want to bring your bird feeder into school or take a photograph, and your adults can email it to your teacher.

I look forward to seeing how you are helping our feathered friends.

Mrs. Wilding