

Make a Bird Feeder

Look after the birds this winter by making bird feeders.

You Will Need:

- Bird seed
- Raisins
- Suet or Lard
- Coconut halves or old yoghurt pots
- String
- Scissors or hand drill
- Mixing bowl



What To Do:

- Cut a small hole in the yoghurt pot or coconut shell and thread a length of string through it.
- Tie a knot to secure it, leaving enough length outside to tie the pot to a tree.
- Allow the lard to warm up to room temperature and cut it into small pieces.
- Mix the lard, seed and raisins in the bowl with your hands until the fat holds the mixture together.
- Fill the yoghurt pots or coconut shells with this mixture and leave to set in the fridge for an hour.
- Hang the bird feeders from trees or a bird table and watch out for any visiting birds!

Ways to extend this activity: Observe the birds visiting the bird feeders and create a graph of the different species. Find the most popular location for the bird feeders by recording the number of birds visiting. Explore different types of bird seed or additional foods such as cheese or apple.

Ways to support children with this activity: Some children may need help threading and tying the string — this could be prepared in advance.

National curriculum links: Identify and name a variety of common animals in their habitats, including birds. Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals for survival. Identify that animals get nutrition from what they eat. Design purposeful, functional and meaningful products.