



Wild Schools

At Home

Garden
Bird
Detectives

Bird Watching

Science

Spend some time looking out for birds from your window. Remember to stay still and quiet so as not to scare any birds off. Its best to spend at least 5 or 10 minutes doing this as many birds like to hide until they think its safe. If you have binoculars, use them to look more closely at the birds,.

Make a bird feeder

Science and design

You can attract more birds to watch by putting out food for them. In winter birds need lots of high energy food to help them keep warm and in the spring and summer they need plenty to help them feed their growing chicks. There are lots of different bird feeders you can make but remember that high energy foods are best (seeds, lard etc.) and to avoid using products with salt in them such as many peanut butters.

Download instructions on how to make our easy feeders [here](#) and [here](#). And for more information on what and where to feed garden birds visit our [webpages](#).

Questions to ask

Science

What types of birds do you think they are? Look closely at the shapes of their wings, beaks and tails and compare their colours. Download an spotter chart [here](#).

How are the different birds different to each other and what do they have in common?

What are they doing? Are they flying, eating, singing? Do they fly straight to the feeder or wait somewhere first?



Record what you see as a tally

Numeracy

An easy way to make a record of the different birds you saw or which birds visited different bird feeders is to keep a tally. Make a chart like one of those below and then put one stroke for every bird you see. When you need to add a 5th mark, make a cross through that group of tallies and start a new group. Each group of 5 marks represents 5 birds

Tally of birds visiting my garden on 25th January 2021

Bird	Tally	Total
Blue tit		3
Robin		8
Blackbird		12

Tally of birds visiting different feeders on 25th January 2021



Feeder	Blue Tit	Robin	Blackbird
Hanging Apple			
Seed on a table			
Seed on the floor			

Display your findings in a pictogram

Numeracy

You can get creative as you like to make a pictogram of what you found. Print and cut out pictures or draw them yourself. You could even use our garden birds colouring sheet as templates to colour in [here](#). For help on how to make a pictogram visit [this page](#).

Pictogram of blue tits visiting my feeders on 25th January 2021

Hanging Apple	
Seed on the table	
Seed on the floor	

Key:  = 2 birds





Invent your own bird!

Art and Design, Science

Why not have a go at inventing your own new bird species? Thinking about the birds you saw, what features did they all have in common and how did they differ from one another? What does it eat – what sort of beak will it have? Where does it live – will it be brightly coloured or camouflaged?

Once you have invented a bird, try designing a nest for it. Think about what materials it could use and why it might use each one. Now, go outdoors and build one using natural materials. Watch our video on nest building [here](#).

