



Nature Tots

At Home

Garden
Birds

Storytime suggestion

'Little Robin Red Vest' by Jan Fearnley.

Before you read the story talk about whether you have seen any robins near your home and how you can recognise robins. Afterwards, discuss what you could do to help robins in your garden or nearby.

If you don't have the book, listen to it read aloud [here](#).

Create a nest

Natural materials such as twigs, mud, feathers, grass or moss

Have you ever looked closely at a nest? Look at some pictures in books or online and work out what the birds have used to make them. Now go outside and find natural materials to create your own nest. Think about what nests are for (keeping eggs and chicks safe and cosy).

Watch our videos on nests [here](#)

Make a garden bird

Clay or Play Doh and natural materials

Have a go at making your own garden bird. Look at some pictures of birds and talk about what they all have in common and what makes them different from each other. Shape a body out of clay or Play Doh then hunt around outdoors for natural materials to add to the body to create wings, a tail, a beak and eyes. You could try and make a bird you have seen in your garden or create your very own bird from your imagination.





Make a garden bird feeder

Seeds, apples, string, pine cones, lard,

An easy way to help wildlife on your own doorstep is by feeding birds. 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 apple feeder [here](#)

Become a bird watcher

Garden bird identification chart

Spend some time sitting by a window and watching to see which birds visit the area outside. If you hang your bird feeder within view of the window you may well attract more birds. Watch for a while and try to work out whether the birds fly straight to the food or whether they wait nearby first? Why might they do this? How many different types of birds can you see?

Download a garden bird spotter sheet [here](#)

Get colouring

Garden bird colouring sheet, pencil crayons or felt tips

Use what you have seen from your window, the spotter sheet or pictures in books and online to help you choose the right colours for the birds

Download a garden bird colouring sheet [here](#)

