

# Primary Forest School

ONLINE LEARNING – BIG SCHOOLS/GARDEN BIRDWATCH



Activity	Resources Required	Potential Risks	Impact
Skill – Making bird food/ feeder	Fat Balls – fat, bird seed or crushed cereal. Carton Feeder – carton, scissors, paint or pens, string, bird seed, skewer	Consumption of lard/ fat, Nuts in bird feed – nut allergies, Use of scissors	Children to make feeders or food to prepare for birds visiting
Main – Participate in Big Schools/ Big Garden Bird watch	Using Big Schools Birdwatch sheets	Possible injury if using binoculars	Children to identify different birds and submit their findings to the RSPB and us
Extended – Identify species and their characteristics, i.e. Beak shape and size...	As above and bird book if you have one or internet resources	As above	Children to identify and classify, finding reasons for differences and similarities
Mindfulness – Listen	A nice spot to sit (preferably outdoors first thing in morning or dusk)	Don't sit in/ on anything yucky!	Listen to the bird song around you – really listen, how many different birds can you hear

The important bit for parents and teachers... but you can have a sneak peek at the activities too!

Did you know  
about...?

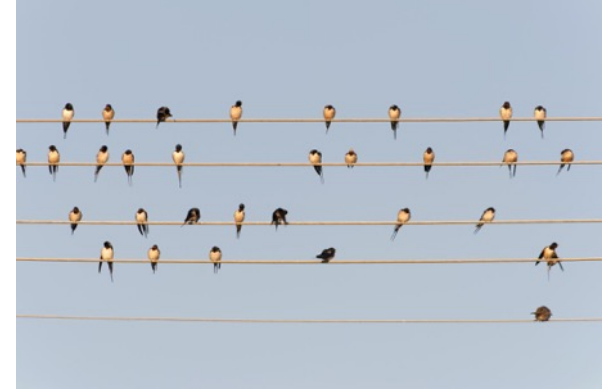
**Big**  
**Garden**  
**Birdwatch**  
**29-31 January 2021**



[Click Here for More Information](#)



# Be our Guest!



## How to make Fat Balls;

Step 1: Soften the fat – whether it's lard or left over (cooled) cooking fat

Step 2: Mix the fat with the bird seed/ old cereal. You should have no fat blobs – it should all be mixed with the seeds especially inside the ball!

Step 3: Use your hands to make into a ball shape

Step 4: Put outside (off the ground) and wait for any visitors

Top Tip: Use cookies cutters to make different shapes!



# Still a little peckish?

## How to make Homemade Carton Bird Feeder

**Step 1:** With help from an adult, cut a shape out of opposite sides of the carton. Make sure you leave approximately 5cm at the base of the carton.

**Step 2:** Paint or colour in your carton using any design you wish! We recommend giving your carton a baselayer.

**Step 3:** At the top of the carton make a hole, use your string to thread through and tie to make a hanger.

**Step 4:** At the base of your carton make another hole on both side and use a stick to push through. This is for the bird to land on to feed!

**Step 5:** Fill up with bird seed and hang in your garden to see who visits!



# The Main Event!



If your garden isn't very chirpy – don't worry!

Click here to find the Big Garden Bird Watch live webcam  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2YXRazll4Y>

What do you  
think the birds  
are eating?

How many  
birds can you  
see here?

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Birdwatch  
29-31 January 2021



Which was  
your favourite  
bird?





# How to take part in the survey...

Count the birds  
from one place,  
for one hour

## 1 Pick a time

You can choose any hour between Friday 29th and Sunday 31st January 2021. So whether you're an early bird or a night owl, you can still take part.



## 2 What did you see?

Count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or window. To avoid double-counting, just record the **highest number of each bird species you see at any one time** – not a running total.

**TOP TIP: Put some bird food out a few days before you count the birds**

**\*This year our advice is to take part in the safety of your own home\***

## 3 Submit your results

Online: You can submit your results online at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/> from 29 January until 19 February.



# Whose t-who?...



Birds are classed into lots of different species.

Can you name the birds in your garden or on the live webcam?

Are you able to draw the birds that you have seen?  
What colours will you use?



Did you know that half of our birds migrate? Can you find out what migrate means?

Can you find out the fastest, tallest, smallest bird living in the UK?



# Look at beaks and feet?...



By looking at the different features of the bird we can work out how they have evolved and what they can do well.

Can you find out why Finches have triangle beaks?

Why do different birds have different feet?



Which bird do you think swims better and why?

Looking in your garden or the webcam can you spot the different features of the birds you see?



# Mindfulness Moment

Watch and listen  
to the birds and  
other wildlife

Find a nice spot to sit (outside in morning or dusk  
if possible!)

Can you Find...

5 birds that you can see?



4 birds that you can hear?



3 places a bird could perch?

2 places a bird could hide?



Can you imagine  
that you are a  
bird? How would  
you feel with  
wings?

# How did you get on?

What was your  
favourite  
activity?



Share your feedback by;  
Emailing - [ellen.blackwood@primary-forest-school.co.uk](mailto:ellen.blackwood@primary-forest-school.co.uk)  
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