

Make a Pine Cone Bird Feeder

A simple, nut-free treat for the birds in your garden. Hang it where you can see it from a window, then see who comes to visit!

You will need

- A large, open pine cone (collect one on a walk)
- A piece of string, about 40cm long
- Lard or vegetarian suet, softened at room temperature
- Nut-free wild bird seed
- A handful of porridge oats
- A little grated cheese - robins love it!
- A bowl and a spoon



What to do

- 1 Tie the string tightly around the top of the pine cone, leaving a long loop for hanging.
- 2 Ask a grown-up to help you squish the softened lard in a bowl until it's soft and squidgy.
- 3 Mix in the seed, oats and cheese until everything sticks together.
- 4 Press the mixture deep into the gaps of the pine cone and all over the outside.
- 5 Pop it in the fridge for an hour to set firm.
- 6 Hang it from a branch or bird table, close to a bush so birds can dart to safety.
- 7 Watch quietly from a window and keep a tally of who visits!

Did you know?

Birds don't have teeth! They swallow seeds whole, and a tough, muscly part of their tummy called the gizzard grinds them up. Some birds even gulp down tiny bits of grit to help with the crunching.

Who came to visit?

Robin

Tally:

Blue tit

Tally:

Blackbird

Tally:

House sparrow

Tally:

Great tit

Tally:

Something else!

Tally: