

## Learning objectives

- To identify which birds use the school grounds.
- To create effective bird feeders.

20-30  
mins

KS1  
& 2

## Teacher preparation

Preparation of materials, risk assessment.

## Equipment & resources

- Newspaper
- Aprons or old clothes
- Pine cones
- String
- Scissors
- Margarine
- Bird seed, raisins, sultanas or other dried fruit (cheese is also an option)
- Bread crumbs

## Main activity

1. Cover the classroom tables with old newspapers this activity can be a bit messy.
2. Put a large dollop of margarine into a bowl.
3. Add all the seeds, dried fruit and cheese and mix it up with a spoon or your hands.
4. Give the kids a pine cone and get them to tie a piece of string or twine at the top of the cone so that it will hang off a tree.
5. Then encourage the pupils to poke the mixture into the crevices of the pine cone. They can do this with their hands or with plastic spoons or knives.
6. If you are worried about children with nut allergies you just can use the dried fruit, cheese and bread-crumbs.
7. Tie the feeders to a tree and get the pupils to record which kinds of birds use their feeders.

### Safety points:

Make sure none of the pupils involved have nut allergies.

### Follow-up activities:

- Draw up a list of other ways we can help birds in school.
- Have children design and make some of their suggestions to put up around their school. Again, keep a note of which birds visit the grounds and take note of how often the feed needs to be re placed.