

Feed the Birds Craft Ideas

Instructions and illustrations from:

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/youth/makeanddo/activities/index.asp>

Make a speedy bird cake (WEEK TWO)

You will need: bird seed; raisins; peanuts; grated cheese; suet or lard; yoghurt pots; string; mixing bowl; scissors.

BE AWARE OF NUT ALLERGIES!

1. Carefully make a small hole in the bottom of a yoghurt pot. Thread string through the hole and tie a knot on the inside. Leave enough string so that you can tie the pot to a tree or your bird table.
2. Allow the lard to warm up to room temperature, but don't melt it. Then cut it up into small pieces and put it in the mixing bowl.
3. Add the other ingredients to the bowl and mix them together with your finger tips. Keep adding the seed/raisin/cheese mixture and squidding it until the fat holds it all together.
4. Fill your yoghurt pots with bird cake mixture and put them in the fridge to set for an hour or so.

Make a recycled bird feeder (WEEK THREE)

You will need: Plastic drinks bottles, yoghurt pots or milk cartons (make sure they're clean), wire or string, bird seed, scissors.

Be aware of nut allergies when using bird food!

1. Cut a hole in the side large enough to allow a free flow of seeds, but in such a way that it won't all fall out on the ground in the slightest puff of wind, and won't get wet if it rains.
2. Make a few small holes in the bottom of your feeder to allow any rainwater to drain away.
3. Fill with birdseed/peanuts etc
4. Hang it with wire, or even strong string from a tree or your washing line.



Make a food chain mobile (WEEK FOUR)

You will need: card, scissors, compasses, paints, crayons or felt-tips, string, pins.

1. Practise drawing the different elements of the chain on paper – make sure you give them a clear outline that you can cut around.
2. Draw the smallest food in the food chain (e.g. a hazel nut) and use the compasses (or something round e.g. a cup) to draw a circle around it.
3. Draw the next food (e.g. a mouse) around this circle. Surround that with a circle of its own, and draw the next element (e.g. an owl) around that.
4. Colour your food chain in.
5. Cut out all the circles, and then cut around the outlines of the nut, the mouse and the owl.
6. Carefully pierce a hole in the top of the hazel nut, and thread string through it.
7. Pierce another hole above the circle in the mouse and string the two together. When the hole is in the right place, thread string through it.
8. Attach the mouse to the owl in the same way as step 7 and find the balance point with a pin.
9. Hang up your finished mobile and watch it move in the wind.

