



Activity Idea

Activity	Feeding the Birds
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Possibilities for maths learning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Composition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cardinality <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subitise <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comparison <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shape <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pattern <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spatial Awareness
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Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Plastic cups or clean yoghurt pots ➤ Empty pop/water bottle ➤ Wooden spoons ➤ Sticks ➤ String/ rope/ metal hooks ➤ Kitchen roll tubes ➤ Weighing scales ➤ Pan ➤ Fat or lard ➤ Bird seeds (sunflower seeds, peanuts, grains etc.) ➤ Pictures of common birds that might be seen ➤ Clipboards, pens, pencils, camera, binoculars ➤ Bird watching record book
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Activity Outline	<p>Talk to the children about bird watching and why we feed the birds, you can tie in talk about the different seasons and weather. Show them the bird food that you will be using and pictures of the birds they might see. Do they recognise any? What different colours can they see? Which birds are bigger?</p> <p><u>Recycled bottle feeder</u> Cut holes at opposite sides of the bottle so that a wooden spoon can slot through. Fit two spoons per bottle. Add another hole through the bottle top that string will fit through.</p> <p>Help the children to slot the spoons through the holes in the bottle and string through the hole in the bottle top. Tie a large knot in the string so that it is secure and the bottle can be hung.</p> <p>Fill the bottle with seeds and screw the lid on tightly. Help the children to find a suitable place in the outdoors to hang them.</p> <p><u>Bird cakes</u> Measure out 200g of fat or lard and 200g of bird seed. Melt the lard in a pan and carefully mix in the seeds. Pour or spoon the mixture into yoghurt pots and insert a metal hook into the top while the mixture is still wet. Once the mixture has set, carefully remove the yoghurt pots. Help the children to hang the cakes in the outdoors.</p>
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	<p>Bird Feeder</p> <p>Cover kitchen roll tubes with sticky back plastic. Roll the sticky rolls in bird seed until all sides are covered. Tie 2 sticks together to make a cross and feed the seed tubes onto each end. Help the children to hang the cakes in the outdoors.</p> <p>Watch for the birds feeding.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Each day have a dedicated team go out and make sure the feeders are still full and there is a clean water supply.2. Use the bird matching cards to watch for birds and mark down what you see. Use the camera to take pictures if you can.3. Log the bird activity on a graph with different pictures of the birds so you can see how many birds you see each day and discuss differences and patterns.4. Discuss the results with the children. Which food do the birds prefer? Did we see more blackbirds on Tuesday or Friday? Which day had the most birds?
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Extension Opportunities	<p>✓ You can visit the RSPB website to find out more information about birds in your area and other resources that may be of interest- https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids</p>
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