

PLEASE NOTE: This activity requires adult supervision for children under the age of 10.



# What do I need?

Old milk carton

Small twig

Wild bird feed\*

Acrylic paints

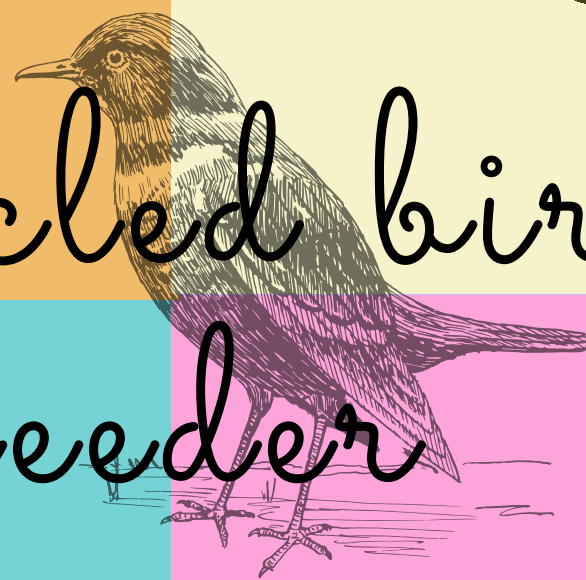
Twine

Scissors

\*When buying bird feed choose small seeds and avoid large pellets or nuts which may choke small birds. Some kitchen food waste may be suitable for feeding birds but check the RSPB webpage on 'Safe food for birds' for guidance before you put any out.



recycled bird  
feeder



# What do I do?

Make sure your milk carton is completely clean and dry inside.

Use your scissors to cut 2 small openings in the front and back of the carton. The openings don't need to be too big because you are trying to attract small garden birds such as tits, robins and finches, whose bodies are very small. About 3cm by 3cm is ideal.

Now paint your carton all over in the colour(s) of your choice. Why not paint it in the colours of your garden so it blends in? Leave the paint to dry for about 2-3 hours, until touch-dry.

Carefully use your scissors to pierce a hole 2cm underneath both openings in the same position. Thread your twig through both holes to make a perch for the birds to sit on whilst they eat. Make sure your twig is long enough to stick out on both sides of the carton.

Attach a length of twine to the top of your carton through the spout so that you can hang it in a tree. You may need to make another small hole so you can thread your twine through and tie it in place.

The most important time of year to feed your garden birds is from winter to spring, when the birds' natural food source is scarce. So, wait until October time when the temperature begins to drop to hang your feeder in the garden. Hang your feeders a little above eye level, away from fences and ledges where squirrels or cats can get to them.

Birds will rely on your feeder as a constant food source in winter and early spring so make sure to keep it topped up everyday.