



Activity 4

Feed the birds



Early Learning Goal Links

Understanding the World – The Natural World

Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.

Expressive Arts and Design – Creating with Materials

Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Key vocabulary and phrases

Bird, bird feeder, reuse.



Main activity

The purpose of this activity is to reuse items to create a bird feeder and observe the natural world.

Tell the children that today we'll be creating something for the birds with the help of BABY born. Again, briefly revisit how used things can be used to create something new and why this is better for the environment than throwing those things away.

Look out of the window or go into a garden/playground with BABY born and see which birds you can spot. Do you see any eating? Do you know what birds eat and where they eat? What can the children tell BABY born?

Share pictures or videos of small birds feeding – both in nature and from bird feeders. Ask the children what they notice. What can they tell BABY born?



Tell the children that today we will be making a bird feeder. Work in small groups, helping the children with making the holes. Make two small holes opposite each other at one end of a cardboard roll. Thread through string or cotton thread and tie a large loop. This is how you hang the bird feeder.



You can also find and use a stick to push through both sides of the tube towards the bottom of the feeder to create a stand for smaller birds.

Alternatively, you can cut out shapes from cardboard if you don't have any cardboard tubes, then create a hole to thread the string through and cover them in the same way as below.

Here is where the children can really get involved and get a bit messy! Cover the cardboard in peanut butter (or vegetable shortening if there are nut allergies in the group). Then roll in bird seeds and/or oats.

As a class, decide where you will hang your feeder – in the park, on your balcony, in your garden or your school playground. Once the feeder is up, look out for which birds appear.

Further ideas

- Observe which birds use the feeder. Can they get the food? Do you need to change your design at all?

Continue the learning at home

- Use recycled materials to create a bird bath.

