

il-Huttafa

Numru 167

Novembru – Dicembru 2021



Gurlin
Sekond



Hbieb naturalisti...

U waslet biex tispicċa sena oħra. Ċaw ċaw 2021!

Meta tasal sena ġidida ħafna nies jagħmlu wegħda li jaqtgħu xi vizzju. Min jgħid ha jirqaq, min jgħid ha jaqta' s-sigaretti, min jgħid li ha jistudja iktar. Dawn ngħidulhom *new year's resolutions*.

Jien qtajha li ha noħroġ iktar fin-natura. Mhux biss, imma ha nitgħallem l-isem ta' 12-il pjanta ġidida. Waħda kull xahar! Imbagħad irrid naqra, nistaqsi u nitgħallem iktar fuq kull waħda. Halli meta noħroġ fin-natura nibda nagħrafhom. Qishom hbieb ġodda.

U nżidhom mal-lista ta' hbieb naturali li digà għandi. Għasafar, insetti, fjuri, rettili, siġar, brimb, īx-ħebieb kull fejn inhares!

Haġ'ohra li rrid nagħmel hi li nħawwel 12-il siġra. Imma dawn mhux ha nħawwilhom waħda fix-xahar ghax mhux kull staġun tajjeb għat-taħwil. Tafu liema hu l-aħjar staġun biex thawwel is-siġar? **Ix-xitwa!** Jiġifieri issa!

B'hekk sa ma tasal in-nixfa tas-sajf is-siġar żgħar ikunu laħqu ħadu ftit xita u l-għeruq tagħhom ikunu draw l-art fejn thawlu.

Tithajru tagħmlu bħali? Fil-każ iktibuhom f'paġna 14 halli ma tinsewx!

Nawguralkom Milied sabiħ bla ħafna ħela, u nixtiqilkom sena ġidida mimlija saħħa u daħq u natura u tagħlim.

U issa ha mmur infittex dik l-imghażqa...

Victor

Victor Falzon L-Editur

Victor Falzon



Gurlin Sekond

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Għasfur tax-xut fit-ti skars li f'pajjiżna jidher fiż-żmien tal-passa. Għandu munqarū twil u milwi 'l-isfel, u jużah biex iħaffer fit-tajn ħalli jsib id-did li jgħix hemm. Jismu **gurlin sekond** ghax hemm għasfur iehor jismu **gurlin**, li huwa ikbar mill-habib tagħna. U munqarū itwal sew ukoll!



Il-bebuna (annual daisy) twarrad fix-xitwa, f'xi roqgħa niedja fix-xagħri.



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The people who wrote

Thais Amaral (National Aquarium), Elena (Ecohive), Desirée Falzon, Victor Falzon, Mark Gauci, Aron Tanti, Marie Vella (BOV)

Klabb Huttaf

Klabb Huttaf is the junior (under 16) section of BirdLife Malta. Members

- can attend club activities, like walks, visits to nature reserves, boat trips and also do environmental work
- receive *Il-Huttafa* every two months.

Your family too can become member, and you will then get *Bird's Eye View* magazine too. Annual subscription is €10 for Klabb Huttaf and €20 for Family.

Hey, it's even cheaper now!



The contacts

tel 21347645 / 21347646
emergency injured bird 79255697
address 57/28 Triq Abate Rigord
Ta' Xbiex XBX 1120
email info@birdlifemalta.org
website www.birdlifemalta.org

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Waww,
hanex abjad!
Dak rari, bro!



Kuċċarun biċ-ċurkett!

Kmieni f'Dicembru, żewġ paletti l-ǵmiel tagħhom niżlu jistrieħu fir-riserva naturali tal-Għadira. Il-paletta hija tajra spettakolari, specjalment b'dak il-munqar qis u kuċċarun!

Waħda miż-żewġ paletti kellha ħaġ-oħra interessanti. Ma' sieqha ikellha ġurkett abjad li bit-tromba stajna naqrawlu n-numru. Minn dak in-numru, il-BirdLife sirna natu li dik il-paletta faqqset f'April 2017 fil-Camargue, riserva naturali kbira fin-naħha t'-isfel ta' Franzia!

Il-paletta (*Eurasian spoonbill*) hija għasfur tal-passa, u waqt li jpassu dawn l-għasafar jegħi jew u jaqbadhom il-ġuħi. Għalhekk waqt il-vjaġġ twil tagħhom ifittxu postijiet fejn jinżlu jistrieħu u jieku xi ħaġa.

Għalhekk ir-riservi naturali tagħna huma tant importanti għall-ġħasafar, allavalja żgħar.



David Attard



Niżlet tistad...

Kmieni f'Novembru fir-riserva tal-Għadira niżlet arpa fil-baxx fuq l-ilma. L-arpa (*osprey*) hija tip ta' ajkla li tiekol il-ħut, għalhekk bdiet iddur fuq l-ġħadira tgħarrex l-ilma b'għajnejha; darba anke ghodson fl-ilma u telghet tferfer ir-rixx. Imma bħalissa fir-riserva bużaqq biss hemm, li żgħir wisq biex jinteressa lil din it-tajra kbira. Għalhekk wara li straħet ftit fuq għażira żgħira fir-riserva, l-arpa taret u ġibdet lejn il-park tal-Majjistral.

U kull min kien hemm dakħinhar u ra dan l-ispettaklu nduna li kien nesa jieħu n-nifs!



Aron Tanti

Dragun ġdid!

Il-mazzarelli (*dragonflies*) huma insetti b'saħħithom, ikkuluriti u wħud minnhom kbar ukoll. Jgħixu l-iktar fejn hemm l-ilma ħelu, għalhekk f'Malta ma tantx hawn ambient għal-qalbhom wisq. Imma xorta waħda għandna lista ta' xi 20 speċi. U kull tant snin tiffacċċa speċi ġidida.

L-iktar wieħed ġidid huwa l-mazzarell tal-Magreb (*orange-winged dropwing Trithemis kirbyi*). Lemħu l-ewwel darba seħibna Charles Gauci f'Mejju 2020, f'wied bl-ilma ħdejn l-İmselliet. B'xorti tajba Charles kelli l-kamera għal-lest u b'hekk seta jagħrfu u jiċċekkja aħjar mir-ritratti. Tliet xħur wara reġa' ra ieħor, din id-darba f'Wied il-Qlejgħha. Prosit Charles.



Charles Gauci

Jismu hekk
għax miflurx
sew fl-artijiet
tal-Afrika ta'
Fuq, li jissejhu
l-Magreb

X'rajt fil-ġnien⁴

Desirée Falzon
Detektiv

Desirée Falzon



Kemm għamlet xita! U kemm fraħt għax tgħidx kemm għandi ħajja fil-ġnien. Dan l-aħħar skoprejt xi ħażja ġidida wkoll: kont qed ninnota kemm tela' t'fief fil-qsari u fil-ħamrija li nħalli għall-pjanti selväggi. It-tfief inħobbu għax jagħmel fjur fil-ħarifa, fix-xitwa u fir-rebbiegħha u ħafna insetti jiġgennu għall-fjuri tiegħu.

Jiena u nħares lejn it-tfief, fuq werqa nnutajt xi ħażja badja. Harist iktar mill-vičin u rajt disinn abjad iserrep ma' wiċċi il-werqa. Tgħid min qaghad jimxi żigużajg ipinġi linja bajda qisha tiżjina fuq il-werqa?

Mort għall-kamera u ħad tritratti tal-werqa minn fuq u minn taħt biex nara aħjar fuq l-iskrin tal-komputer, forsi niskopri min kien l-artist. Kif kabbart ir-ritratti tan-naħha ta' taħt tal-werqa malajr ħad it-tweġiba: dak iż-żigużajg kien kanal irriq minn fejn kien għaddha annimal! U

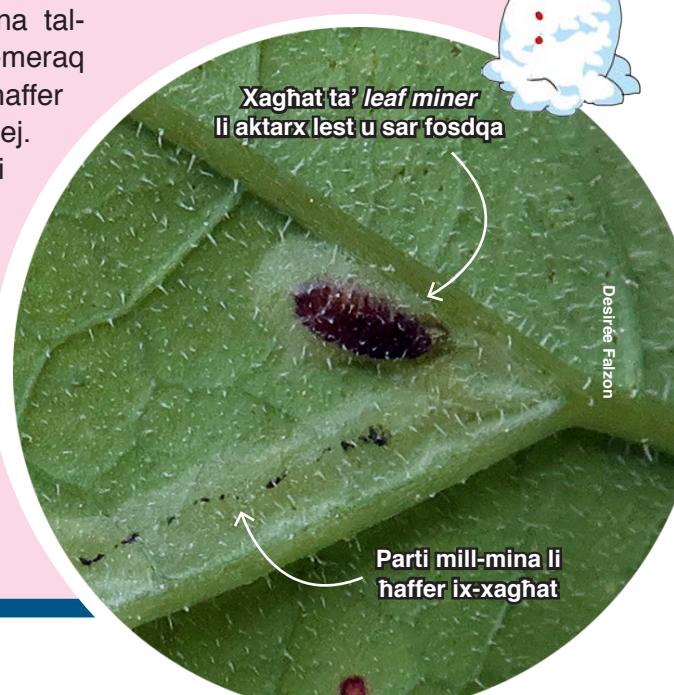


hemm kien l-annimal – fit-tarf taż-żigużajg. Tant kien żgħir li kien qed jghix fil-ħxuna tal-werqa, u filwaqt li jiekol il-meraq aħdar tal-werqa, kien ħaffer mina huwa u għaddej. Dawk kienu d-‘disinji’ li rajt!

Meta fittixt dwar x-annimal seta' kien, tgħallim li hemm tip ta' baħrijiet żgħar li jbidu fil-weraq. Meta l-bajd ifaqqas joħroġ ix-xagħat, jiġifieri d-dudu. Dawn jgħidulhom leaf

miners, għax iħaffru l-mini fil-weraq. Ix-xagħat jibqa' jgħix u jħaffer fil-werqa sakemm jikber. Meta jkun lest jagħmel fosdqa u wara ftit żmien mill-fosdqa toħroġ il-baħrija lesta!

Mur obsor dan kollu jkun qed jiġi fil-ħxuna ta' werqa!



Desirée Falzon



Ilek ma tmur... sar-riserva tas-Salina?

Is-Salina hija waħda mill-erba' riservi naturali li tieħu ħsiebhom il-BirdLife. Is-Salina hija interessanti s-sena kollha, imma fix-xitwa jkun hemm ruxxmata gawwi li jużaw is-salini biex jorqdu, jistkennu mill-maltemp, jistrieħu, jitbaħbħu fis-salini baxxi, u jgħidu kelma. U dawn biex jitkellmu... jgħajtu koċċ!

X'qed tistenna?!



Ma tgħaddix sena li ma jittfaċċax xi **fjamingu**.

Victor Falzon



Fl-ilma baxx tas-salini jgħix numru sabiħ ta' **bužaqq**.

Victor Falzon



Il-mielha twarrad fis-sajf.

Anonim

Sajf x'ikun?



Is-Salina tiftaħ nhar ta' Hadd (10am–4pm) u mit-Tnejn sal-Ğimġha (8am–4pm)
Dħul bla hlas.



Imla l-vojt b'dawn
l-ismijiet ta'
FAWNA u FLORA
Malta

Weqfin:

- 1 Dak li ttina jinżillek għasel.
- 2 Jekk jaqgħalha denbha jikbrilha ieħor.
- 3 Dawk 'Sekondi' qishom papri b'għajnejn ħumor.
- 4 Jimxi la ġenba fl-baħar.
- 5 Wahda mill-ħwawwar popolari fir-riċetti Malta.
- 6 Il-BOV għen biex ma tibqax f'riskju t'estinzjoni f' Malta - tgħix f'ilma salmastru .
- 7 Meta jgħidu jimxi fuq ir- 'rubini', mhux għal dan ikunu qed jirreferu!
- 8 Dawn l-ħasafar bojod u suwed, jiġu Malta fix-Xitwa.
- 9 Jgħidu lil nies mhux bravi - tajjeb fl-bodu.
- 10 Il-Buskett hemm wieħed.

Nahla fuq
fura tal-
fidloqqom

TWEGBIEFT - WEQFIN - 1 NAHLA, 2 GRIMMULI, 3 BLONDINI, 4 GROTTU, 5 MIZZARDI, 6 GHARKU, 8 BUTTINIEHA, 11 ZRING, 13 RIMB, 15 QANNU
12 GDUR, 14 BOSS MIMDUDIN - 5 MIZZARDI, 6 GHARKU, 8 BUTTINIEHA, 11 ZRING, 13 RIMB, 15 QANNU, 10 ZIZKA

TiSliBa

dwar l-ambjent Malta

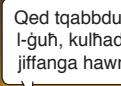


Mimdudin

- 5 Id-dragun itir.
- 6 Iġorr daru kull fejn imur.
- 8 Fjura bajda u żgħira daqs 'buttuna'.
- 11 Dak ta' Malta għandu t-tikekk!
- 13 Min jibża' minnu jinsa li jiekol in-nemus!
- 15 Sonic hu wieħed blu.

Kulhadd ghall-pranzu...

Fix-xitwa hafna ghasafar ma jsibux biżżejjed insetti x'jieklu. Ghalhekk tkun haġa sabiha li nipprouvdulhom ftit ikel f'dawn il-ġranet keshin. Dan nistgħu nagħmluh billi narmawlhom *bird table* fil-ġnien, fil-bitha, fuq il-bejt, fil-gallerija, anke fuq hogor ta' tieqa.



Dal-gallozz iswed żar il-bird table li hemm fir-riserva tal-Għadira. Tantx tistennewħi izur il-bird table tagħkom!



Kif tibni bird
table? Mur
paġna 13

Bufula Sewda

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*

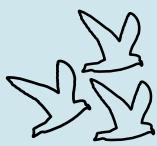


Ritratt ta' Aron Tanti




BirdLife
MALTA





Maltese Seabirds



Seabirds are birds that spend their life at sea or near it. Malta is home to three protected seabird species, the Mediterranean Storm-petrel, the Yelkouan Shearwater, and Scopoli's Shearwater.

The **Mediterranean Storm-petrel** is Malta's smallest seabird. It can be found in Sicily and the Balearic Islands, however the largest estimated breeding colony, which accounts for around half the Mediterranean population, is found in Filfa.



The orange area shows the Marine Protected Areas which are important for seabirds

Native to the Mediterranean Basin, the **Yelkouan Shearwater's** may be found in Greece, Italy and the south-eastern cliffs of Malta, Comino and Gozo.

Their wingspan is around 85cm, and they have a slender black beak that is hooked at the tip, black upperparts, and a whitish bottom.



Mediterranean Storm-petrel



Yelkouan Shearwater

Malta is also home to **Scopoli's Shearwater**, with Gozo being host to the largest local colony. The shearwaters' wingspan is around 120cm and has a white underside with a dark trailing edge, and a yellowish bill. They are often seen following fishing boats for food.

At night they give off a very particular call which resembles a baby's wailing cry. Following breeding season, this species flies out into the Atlantic along West Africa. Interestingly these shearwaters tend to gather in large groups called 'rafts' close to the coast at sunset before returning to their nests in the dark.

Special Protection Areas forming part of the Natura 2000 network have been designated in Malta to ensure the survival of these protected seabirds.

For more information visit era.org.mt



Photo: Scopoli's Shearwater - OCEANA/Carlos Minguell © LIFE BaHAR for N2K

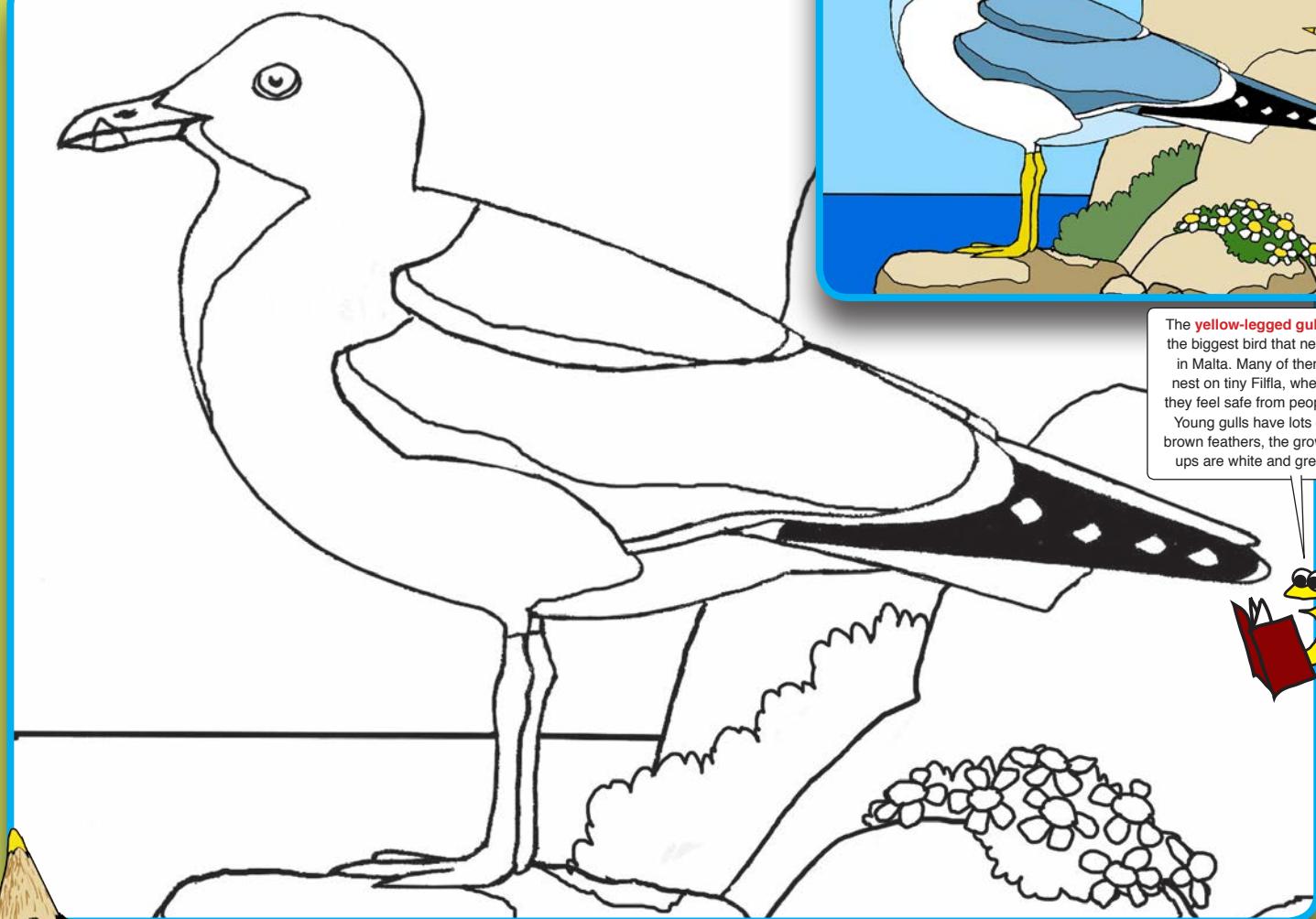
Photo: Yelkouan Shearwater - Frank Dhermain

Photo: Mediterranean Storm-petrel - Joe Sultana

Scopoli's Shearwater

Colour the gull

Victor Falzon

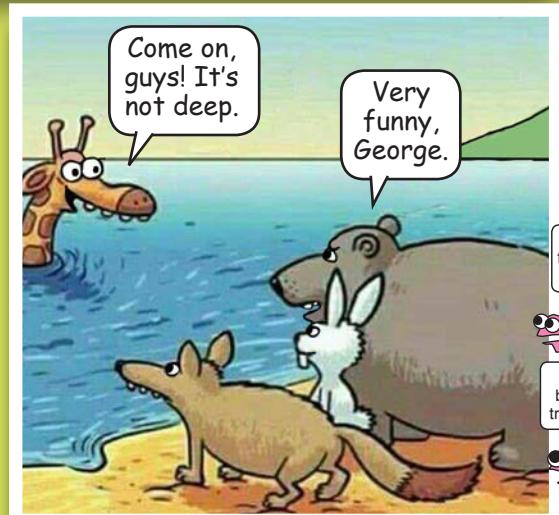


The yellow-legged gull is the biggest bird that nests in Malta. Many of them nest on tiny Filfla, where they feel safe from people. Young gulls have lots of brown feathers; the grown-ups are white and grey.



Chameleon

Photo by Emily Bonnici (9)



ays! Club Days! Fun Days! Club Days!



We at Klabb Huttafa are all the time organising fun days with exciting activities and adventures for you and your family.

So always check out our website

www.birdlifemalta.org/events

for news about
our next awesome activity





ĠONNA DINJA WAħDA

Victor Falzon

Ġnien Ninja Waħda huwa ġnien speċjali maħsub biex jiġbed in-natura lejh. Il-BirdLife ilha ħafna snin tghin skejjel biex joħolqu dawn il-ġonna, fejn in-natura tinfirex u l-istudenti ġawdu u jitgħallmu. Nittawlu lejn uħud minnhom...



Post: Għar Dalam

L-isem tal-ġnien: Ġnien Ninja Waħda

Area tal-ġnien: 500m²

Dan huwa l-iktar Ġnien Ninja Waħda ġdid. Infetah ftit xhur ilu biss.

Bis-saħħa ta' dan il-ġnien, il-Mużeż ta' Għar Dalam mhux biss jgħalleml dwar l-ambjent naturali Malti kif kien eluf ta' snin ilu, imma issa anke fuq in-natura tal-lum.

Mad-dawra ta' Għar Dalam qed jinħoloq ukoll park kbir: park arkeologiku u naturali.

Prosit Heritage Malta ta' dan il-proġett



... u llum!

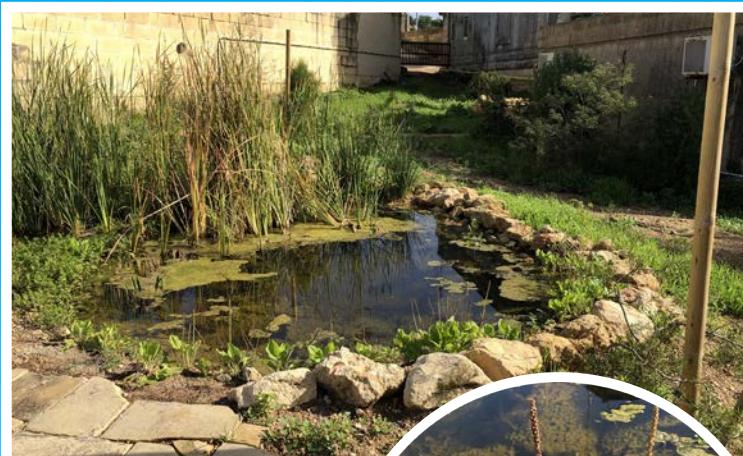
Tfal tal-iskola u l-ghalliema tagħihom digħi qegħdin ġawdu l-ġnien Ninja Waħda

L-iljunf ant nanu wieħed mill-annimali li nstab l-ghadu tagħhom f'Għar Dalam

Paul Portelli



Il-vaska qiegħda tinħoloq ...



... u diġà mimlija ħajja!

Minkejja li m'ilhiex li nħolqot, il-vaska digħi mtliet bil-ħajja. Il-pjanti u l-annimali jingħibdu lejn l-ilma bħal kalamita.



bizbula kbira greater plantain

Victor Falzon



Bankijiet minn materjal naturali - isbaħ minn tal-konkos!

Victor Falzon



mazzarell skarlat

Victor Falzon



Let's help **birds** this winter.

Let's build them a **bird table**...

You will need

1 piece of plywood about as big as this page (30cm x 20cm)

2 thin wooden strips 24cm long

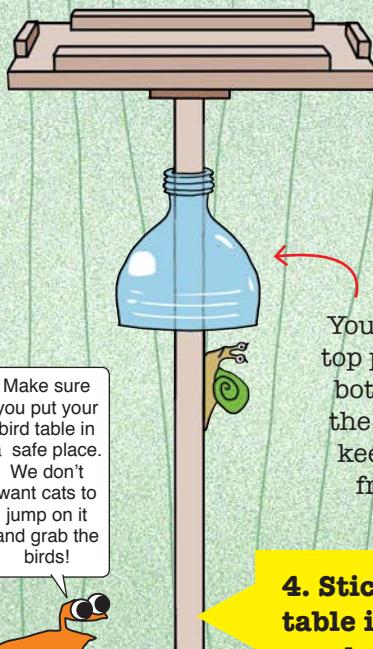
2 thin wooden strips 15cm long

1 small cube of wood about 5cm, with a round hole (2.1cm wide) in the middle.



1 broomstick

Screws, nails, glue



Make sure you put your bird table in a safe place. We don't want cats to jump on it and grab the birds!

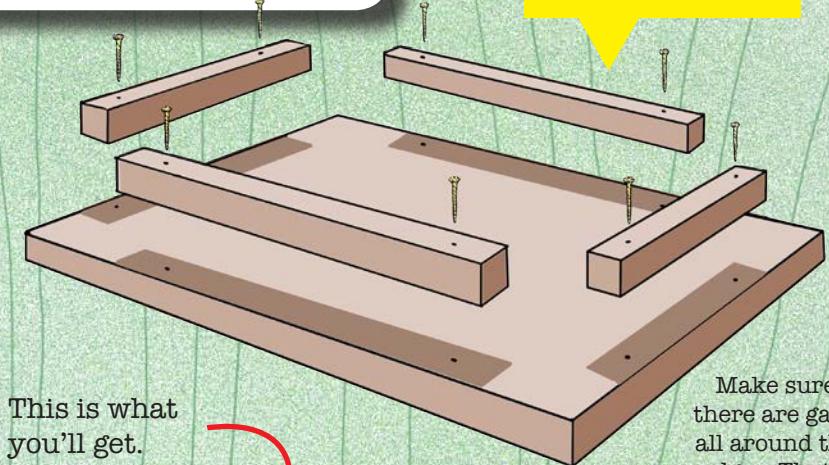
You can wedge the top part of a plastic bottle halfway up the broomstick, to keep snails away from the food.

4. Stick your bird table into the ground or a bucket of sand.

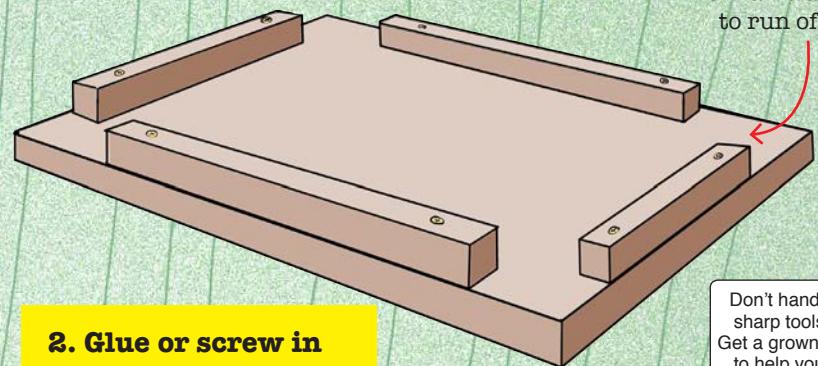
5. Sprinkle some nice food for the birds. Biscuit crumbs, seeds, rice, bits of fruit.

Bread is not a good idea because it swells up in their tummy

This is what you'll get.

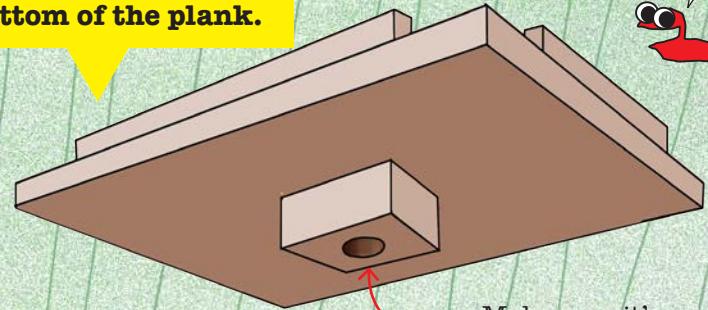


Make sure there are gaps all around the edges. That's for rainwater to run off.



2. Glue or screw in the small block to the bottom of the plank.

Don't handle sharp tools. Get a grown-up to help you.



Make sure it's in the middle.

3. Push one end of the broomstick into the hole.



Go to page 7 to see what birds can visit your bird table

Oh thank you thank you thank you!

FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS!

Have you ever thought that Christmas and the ocean are actually related? During Xmas celebrations we produce a lot of plastic waste which can end up in the ocean! The whole production and transport of new objects also emit lots of CO₂ in the atmosphere, contributing to climate change. So, here are some tips to reduce your Xmas impact this year.

No more producing from virgin natural resources! When buying gifts, focus on charity shops and second-hand items. Or else just buy local or even make your own gifts, like a delicious jam in a reused glass jar!

You can also use flowers, sticks, leaves and newspaper to decorate your gifts and house! Or what about restyling some old fabrics or clothes you have at home, cutting them into nice and personalized gift wraps?

MY SUSTAINABLE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS! IN 2022, I WILL:

- Stop using single-use plastics



Meet the ocean's Christmas tree!

This cute little thing might look like a tree, but it's actually an animal! Known as the Christmas tree worm, it is an invertebrate, specifically a marine worm that builds a tube in coral reefs. The worm itself is around 4 cm and hides inside the tube, and the colourful tree-like parts that we see are actually two appendages of the mouth used to trap food particles and bring them to the mouth. Oh, and the worm also uses them to breathe!

Run away from single-use plastics, of course! No balloons or disposable cutlery and cups, for instance. And you might even consider reducing plastics as part of your New Year's resolutions! Fill out the checklist here so you plan for yourself and for the planet!

F A T T I F A W N A



Hafna nies fok
kamaleonti
jghidu
kalamajonti.
HAZINA!
Jekk ma
titghallux
tghiduha sew ha
ntielkom copy
1000 times!

ka-ma-
le-on-
ti



il-Kamaleonti

- ◆ Il-kamaleonti huwa rettili, bħall-gremxul u s-sriep. L-isem xjentifiku tiegħu huwa *Chamaeleo chamaeleon*.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti adattat biex jgħix fis-siġar. Idejha u saqajh qishom ganċijiet biex jiggrana z-zkuk meta jimxi fis-siġar.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti kapaċi jkebbet denbu madwar zokk. Dan iservih ta' ħabel biex iż-żomm sod meta jkun qed jixxabbat fis-siġar.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti jibdel il-kulur biex jaqbel mal-ħabitat ta' madwaru. B'hekk jinħeba mill-predaturi u anke mill-²priža tiegħu.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti jista' jinbidel f'aħdar, kannella u griz, čar jew skur. Ikun ukoll imżewwaq b'ħafna dbabar żgħar čari jew skuri.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti ma jiġi lu xejn jekk jara jew imiss xi ħażja!
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti jaqbad insetti, speċjalment dubbien, ġurati, friefet u baħrijet.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti jaqbad il-priža b'il-sieni, li huwa twil ħafna, bit-tarf iwaħħal, u joħrog sparat minn ħalqu.
- ◆ Fost animali li jieklu l-kamaleonti nsibu l-ballottra u l-qattus (*cat snake*).
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti mara tħbi il-bajd f'ħofra fir-ramel jew fil-ħamrija. Meta l-bajd ifaqqas, il-frieħ iridu jitgħallmu kollox weħidhom mingħajr l-ghajnejha tal-ġenituri.
- ◆ Il-kamaleonti mhux ³indigenu. Iddahħħal Malta fis-Seklu 19 mill-Afrika ta' Fuq, u ntelaq fi ġnien privat f'San Giljan. Ftit ftit infirex fil-kampanja. Illum insibuh ukoll f'Għawdex u anke fuq Kemmuna.
- ◆ Bhar-rettili l-oħrajn kollha, il-kamaleonti huwa protett, jiġifieri kontra l-ligi li nfixkluh, noqtlu, naqbdū jew nippuvaw inrabbu.

¹**predatur.** Animal li jiekol animali oħrajn
²**priža.** Animal li jittiekel minn animal iehor (bl-Ingliz *prey*)
³**indigenu.** Speci li minn dejjem kienet tgħix f'dak il-post





ECOHIVE MISSIONS

SAVING THE CHRISTMAS TREES

WRITTEN BY ELENA



CHRISTMAS WAS ON THE WAY AND EVERYONE WAS BUSY DECORATING THEIR HOUSES.

