



Birds

Find food for birds

Age: 7-14

Topic: Biology

Time: 30 minutes



What should learners already know?

- Different species of birds have different diets.

What equipment will I need?

- Small jars
- A small shovel
- A white cloth
- An insect vacuum, which you can buy or make yourself (see photo).



How will learners explore this?

1. Go out and collect food that you think birds eat.
2. Place the food you've found on a white cloth.
3. Which bird do you think eats the food you found?
4. Can all birds eat the food you have collected?
5. Divide your food according to different specialists.
6. What different kind of species are you thinking of?
7. Think further.
8. If you are looking in another place, do you think you will find the same bird food?
9. If you collect food at another time of year, will the result be the same?

How can we show the learning?

- What food did children find?
- How many different bird species can your school grounds feed?
- Birds are generalists or specialists. If you look at the shape of a bird's beak, you can see if it only eats a certain kind of food or can eat a little of each.
- The magpie is a generalist, a bird that has a rather long and wide beak. The magpie can dig into the ground with its beak, which means that it can look for food in several places all year round.
- The willow warbler is a specialist, a bird with a small thin beak. It catches insects and can only find food during the summer at northern latitudes.



If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: ltl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training

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