

How to make a bird cake

Encourage birds to your garden or school grounds by providing them with food in the winter when it is difficult for them to find their own food. This will help you to learn more about wildlife, while the birds help to protect and maintain your garden by eating seeds and insects.

You will need:

- clean empty yoghurt pot
- piece of string
- scissors
- knife
- 400g of lard, at room temperature
- 300g of bird seeds, bird nuts, currants, bread crumbs/plain biscuits
- large bowl



These wonderful bird cakes are quick and easy to make. Simply hang them in a good spot, then watch and wait for the hungry birds to come.

What to do

- 1** Carefully, pierce a hole in the bottom of the empty yoghurt pot.
- 2** Thread the piece of string through the hole and pull all the way through the yoghurt pot.
- 3** Cut the lard into small cubes, using the knife.
- 4** In a large bowl, mix the lard, bird seeds, bird nuts, currants, bread crumbs/plain biscuits together, using your hands. (This is messy but fun!)
- 5** Fill the yoghurt pot with the sticky mixture. Press it down firmly and make sure the string is threaded all the way through the middle of the mixture.
- 6** Put the filled yoghurt pot into the fridge for at least three hours to set.
- 7** Once the mixture is hard, remove the yoghurt pot. (It doesn't matter if you need to break the pot.)
- 8** Hang your bird cake in a tree or bush, using the string to tie it onto a branch.
- 9** Enjoy watching the birds as they peck at your tasty bird cake, but remember to stay quiet so you don't scare them.
- 10** When the birds have eaten the bird cake you can make another one!

Important points!

- Don't add anything to your bird cake that contains salt (such as salted nuts) as this will make the birds ill.
- Bird seeds and bird nuts are not suitable for humans so don't be tempted to try your creation. It's just for the birds!