



Packed with puzzles to solve, tips to learn, and over 170 plastic-free stickers, this book has lots to keep budding birdwatchers busy.

INCLUDES:

Fascinating facts about your favourite birds

How to make a bird feeder

A spotter's log to jot down what you see,

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS Bloomsbury Publishing Plc 50 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DP, UK 29 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, Ireland

BLOOMSBURY, BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS and the Diana logo are trademarks of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

First published in Great Britain 2023 by Bloomsbury Publishing Pla

Illustration by Amy Zhing, 2023 Text and illustration copyright © Bloomsbury, 2023 Photography © Shutterstock

Published under licence from RSPB Sales Limited to raise awareness of the RSPB (charity registration in England and Wales no. 207076 and Scotland no. SC037654).

For all licensed products sold by Bloomsbury Publishing Limited, Bloomsbury Publishing Limited will donate a minimum of 2% from all sales to RSPB Sales Ltd, which gives all its distributable profits through Gift Aid to the RSPB.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publishers

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN: 978-1-5266-6259-0









Big Garden Birdwatch

Every January, the RSPB calls on bird lovers to join the Big Garden Birdwatch – the world's BIGGEST garden wildlife survey.

It's easy to get involved in this fun, free, bird-friendly event!

All you have to do is:

- 1. Find a green space where you can count birds.
- 2. Spend one hour counting the birds you see and make a note of them.

 Only count the birds that land not the ones that fly over!
 - 3. Send your results to the RSPB at: www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

The information you send gives a snapshot of how birds are doing in the wild and whether some species need extra help.

Can you spot the robin hiding throughout the book?

You don't have to wait for the Big Garden Birdwatch - you can watch birds all year round! Read on to learn how to become a brilliant birdwatcher!

If you see this symbol, it means you'll need an adult to help you.

A WORLD OF BIRDS

Birds are beautiful and they can be found nearly everywhere! There is so much fun we can have by just paying them a little attention, and the easiest place to start birdwatching is from your very own home!

Birdwatching basics

You don't need any equipment to birdwatch, but you might find these things helpful:

- Pencil
- Notebook
- Binoculars
- Camera



Draw the view from a window in your home or use your imagination!

Add bird stickers to the scene.

TUNE IN

Birds are often heard before they're seen - they shuffle and flap, rustle leaves, call and sing.

Take a moment to stand still and quiet next time you're outside. Can you hear any birdsong?

This finch sings with a lively sequence of trills of different speeds.

dibbi-dibbi-dibju-ju-ju-ju dweeeeez Greenfinch

> Collared dove

Sing-a-long

Add stickers to complete each bird and learn its signature song!

sispi si-hee-hee Blue tit songs last only 2-3 seconds. Blue tit wee-gee wee-gee Coal tits sing a seesawing 'wee-gee wee-gee' in a high

squeaky voice.

This dove has a slow, lazy, three-note song.

gak-ak-ak-ak-ak

A magpie rarely sings, and when it does, it's very quiet.

Magpie

Coal tit

click wheeeexclick click

5

Starling

cu coo cu cu cu Woodpigeon

Woodpigeons usually sing five notes in a row.

Starlings like to copy different sounds - from the songs of other birds to car alarms!

DID YOU KNOW?

Birds have accents, just like humans. Some birds that live in towns sing in a higher pitch than those in the countryside.

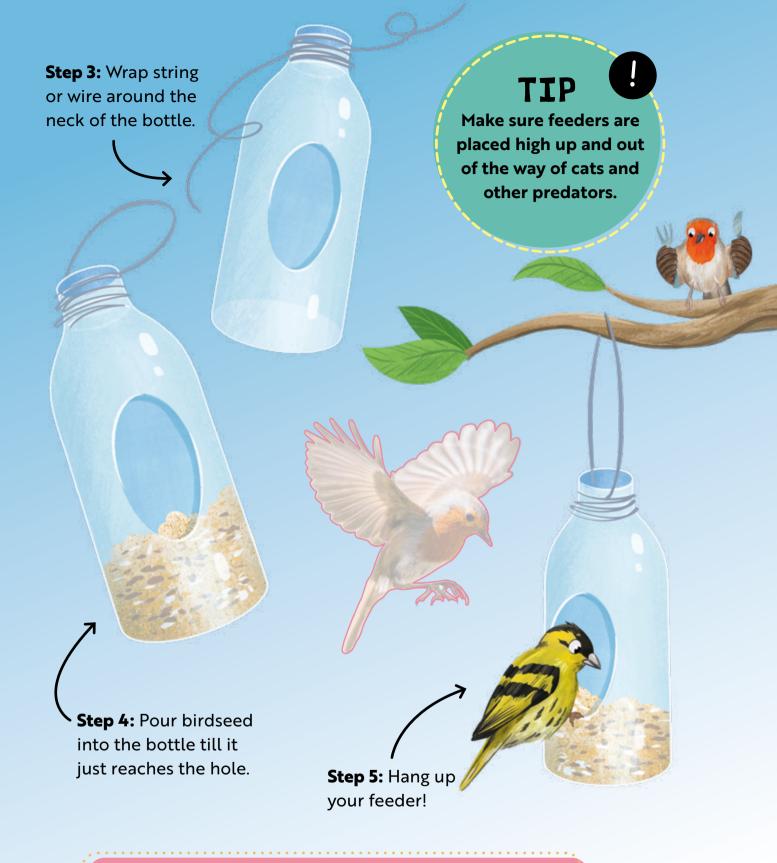
FEED THE BIRDS

Want to make your garden a hot-spot for birds?
Create your own bird feeder to encourage them
to visit again and again.

You will need:

- A clean, empty plastic bottle
- Scissors
- Wire or string
- Birdseed





Make sure you check your feeder at least once a week. Throw away food that's gone bad, put on some gloves, clean and recycle the bottle. When you start again, find a new spot to hang your feeder.

 $\mathbf{6}$

Find the right sticker for each bird.

FAMILIAR FACES

Here are ten of the most common garden birds in the UK. How many have you spotted?

House sparrow

Appearance: Brown, though males have a black mask and a grey cap.

Fun Fact: Often ranks as the 'most-spotted bird' during the Big Garden Birdwatch.

Blue tit

Appearance:

Bright blue with white and yellow markings.

Fun Fact: Baby blue tits have yellow cheeks that turn white as they grow up.

Blackbird

Appearance:

The males are black but the females are brown.

Fun Fact: Fond of fruits and berries.



Appearance: Mostly black, though they develop white speckles in winter.

Fun Fact: They fly together in huge groups, called 'murmurations'.

Woodpigeon

Appearance:

Grey and bulky.

Fun Fact: A young pigeon is called a 'squab'.

Robin

Appearance: Small with a red breast.

Fun Fact: Robins only get their red breasts when they grow up.



Goldfinch

Appearance: Has a red face and a yellow wing patch.

Fun Fact: A flock of goldfinches is called 'a charm'.

Great tit

Appearance: Bigger than a blue tit, with a black line running down its chest. Fun Fact: In winter, they

forage for food with blue tits

Magpie

Appearance:

Black and white patches and a long tail.

Fun Fact: Magpies can copy human speech.

Chaffinch

Appearance:

Females are mostly brown, but males have a rosy pink chest.

Fun Fact: The adults eat seeds but the chicks eat insects

Is there a bird that you see a lot? What's your favourite bird? Draw it here!





8