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Opening extract from

Young Gardner

Written by

Stefan & Beverley Buczacki

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Frances Lincoln

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Young Gardener



Stefan & Beverley Buczacki

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FRANCES LINCOLN
CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Early Spring



What's going on in the garden?

Spring is coming. Snowdrops are pushing through the ground. The days are getting longer and it's becoming warmer in the garden. Animals that went into hibernation to avoid a cold, hungry winter are starting to wake up now. Insects are hatching from eggs or changing from larvae or pupae into their adult forms to face the new season. Birds are getting ready to build their nests and this is the best time of year to attract them to your garden.

Nest boxes

If you set up a nest box in your garden it will encourage birds to nest there, and you might be able to see them raise their young.

It is important to choose the best type of box for the birds you want to attract. Open-fronted boxes are best for robins and wrens, while boxes with small holes are good for tits and flycatchers. There are even really big boxes with very big holes for owls and special cup-shaped boxes to attach under the roof for house martins and swallows.

You can buy a nest box from your garden centre. Place the box out of the reach of cats, and in a south-west facing position, if possible, to make it attractive to the birds.



Birdsong

While you're in the garden you can listen out for the calls of the birds around you. Keep a notebook handy and start writing down, or drawing all the birds that visit your garden. You will soon be able to recognise their different calls.



