

# Make a Homemade Bird Feeder

Have a go at making a bird feeder, using recycled household materials.

Gather up household materials to make your bird feeders.

## Suitable materials for birdhouses include:

- Toilet roll tube
- Plastic water bottle
- Milk carton or juice jug

## Other materials you will need:

- Peanut butter
- Birdseed
- String/twine
- sellotape

## Optional materials you could add to your bird feeder:

- wooden spoon or stick to make a perch.
- Coloured paper to decorate
- Paints and paintbrush to decorate

## Method 1: Plastic Water Bottle

a) Stand a plastic water bottle up on its end and make a series of holes in the sides. These need to be only just large enough for the birds to get their beaks into, but not so large that all the seeds will fall out. Ask an adult for help making the holes.

b) Find an old chopstick or wooden spoon, just a bit longer than your bottle is wide. Ask the adult to make two holes very close to the bottom of the bottle, opposite each other. The holes need to be the right size so the chopstick or wooden spoon will fit firmly.

c) Add bird seed and keep it topped up, so the birds have a regular supply

d) Tie garden twine or string around the neck of the feeder, and hang it vertically in your garden or outdoor space.



## Here are some other homemade bird feeder ideas...

### Method 2: Toilet Roll Tubes

- a) Ask an adult to help you punch a small hole in the side of the toilet roll tube, using a pencil or scissors.
- b) Thread some string or garden twine through the hole and knot it at the other side, leaving 20-30cm or more free so you can hang it up. Secure with some sellotape. Alternatively put a piece of string through the large openings on either end of the tube and tie together so the tube hangs horizontal.
- c) Cover the outside of the toilet roll tube in a layer of peanut butter and sprinkle it with bird seed, make sure to pat the bird seed down to hold it in place.
- d) Use the loose end of the string to hang the feeder up in your garden, or ask permission to hang it in another outside space.

### Method 3: Milk Carton or Juice Jug

- a) Thoroughly clean and rinse the milk carton or jug and leave to dry before using.
- b) Using a pen, draw the shape you would like to cut out on the front of your carton.
- c) Ask an adult to help you cut a 'window' into one side of your carton where you have indicated.
- d) Also ask them to cut a hole underneath the window, with a second hole on the opposite side of the carton. Push a stick or wooden spoon handle through one hole and out of the other. This will make a perch for the birds to land on to eat the seeds.
- e) Add bird seed to the carton and tie garden twine or string around the top so you can hang it in your garden or on your balcony.

TIP: You can add a bit of fun to your carton by decorating it! Try painting it, gluing coloured paper over the top of the carton or drawing on it with markers.

