

THEME: Watch The Birdy!

The colder weather means that it is hard for our garden birds to find food. This Programme encourages the Drey to think about the birds near the meeting place or in their gardens at home. Visit www.rspb.org.uk for further information on the annual Big Garden Birdwatch.

An introductory activity can be used as the Squirrels arrive at the meeting place – colouring or simple puzzles can keep children occupied until all the Drey arrives or use a ‘joining-in’ style game, such as ‘The farmer wants a wife’ or a circle format ball game.
Add snack time where necessary!

TIME (mins)	ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT
5	Welcome, Register, Opening Ceremony, Introduction to Programme	
10	GAME: Bird Table Game <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Across one end of the hall, scatter a selection of pictures of garden birds cut from magazines, calendars or downloaded from the RSPB website</i> ○ <i>Divide the Squirrels into small teams at the other end, each with a pretend bird table (square of brown cardboard)</i> ○ <i>On the word ‘go’ each child in turn runs down and chooses a bird to bring back to their team’s bird table</i> ○ <i>When the game is finished, Leaders can chat about the birds with each individual team and find out what birds visit the Squirrels’ gardens!</i> ○ <i>Leaders could tell the children about any birds which might be in the vicinity of the meeting place!</i> 	Pictures of garden birds from magazines or download from RSPB website Squares of brown cardboard (15cms x 15cms)
10	ACTIVITY: Two Little Birdies Have some fun with this traditional nursery rhyme! The Squirrels will enjoy doing the simple hand actions!	Words
10	CRAFT: Colourful Birds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Give each child a card template and sheet of paper to decorate as they wish. The paper will become the wings ○ Help the Squirrels fold the paper lengthways into a fan and insert it through the slit in the bird template ○ Add stick-on googly eyes, if wished 	Per child: prepared card bird template, sheet of A4 paper Art materials Stick-on googly eyes (if wished)
10	ACTIVITY: Bird Feeders Show the children a selection of shop bought bird feeders and explain how difficult it is for wild birds to find food in cold weather NB – BE AWARE OF NUT ALLERGIES If your venue allows the Drey could go outside to hang the bird feeders in the trees or on fences (out of reach of cats) Or a simple bird feeder could be made from lard, food scraps and nuts pressed into a pinecone, half coconut shell or net bag!	Home made or shop bought bird feeders



10	<p>GAME: Worm, Worm, Bird</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Drey sits in a circle on the floor, choose one Squirrel to walk around the outside of the circle touching each Squirrel in turn saying 'Worm, worm, worm...'</i> ○ <i>When the Squirrel touches someone and says 'Bird', that Squirrel jumps up and chases the other round the outside of the circle</i> ○ <i>The first child tries to get back to the empty space before being caught!</i> ○ 	None
5	Closing, Home	

Two Little Birdies

Two little blackbirds sitting on a wall
 One called Peter and the other called Paul.
 Fly away Peter, fly away Paul. Come back Peter, come back Paul!

Two little robins sitting in a tree
 One called Lola and the other called Lee.
 Fly away Lola, fly away Lee. Come back Lola, come back Lee!

Two little sparrows on a bird table
 One called Molly, the other called Mabel.
 Fly away Molly, fly away Mabel. Come back Molly, come back Mabel!

(Why not try to make up some fun verses of your own featuring well known garden birds!)

Colourful Bird Template

