



How to make your own bird feeder

What you need:

- dry ingredients
 - bird seed
 - cooked rice
 - grated cheese
 - dried fruit
 - breadcrumbs
 - chopped nuts
- hard cooking fat (lard or suet)
- a pine cone, coconut shell or yoghurt pot
 - Use an old yoghurt pot for this, and always recycle after it's been used
- string

- Mix all the dry ingredients together in a bowl
- Add the fat and give it a good mix around
- Choose your feeder
 - plaster all over a pine cone
 - put it round the inside of a coconut shell
 - press into a yoghurt pot
 - You can hang this upside down like a bell or turn it out like a cake
- Hang your feeders with string (you may need to make holes and tie the string in before adding the mix)

Hang your feeder where you can watch birds without disturbing them

If you need to melt the fat, ask an adult to help

Download at <https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/make-bird-feeder>

THINGS TO DO IN DECEMBER

- Think about how plants and animals survive the winter
- Learn how to identify trees when they have no leaves
- Make a bird feeder
- Look for mistletoe and find out how it survives without roots
- Work out how old a tree is

RESOURCES

1. Make a pine cone feeder

https://www.treetoolsforschools.org.uk/activities/pdfs/pdf_cheesy_pine_cone_bird_feeders.pdf

2. Make pine cone creatures

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/Pine%20cone%20creatures.png>

3. Learn to identify winter trees

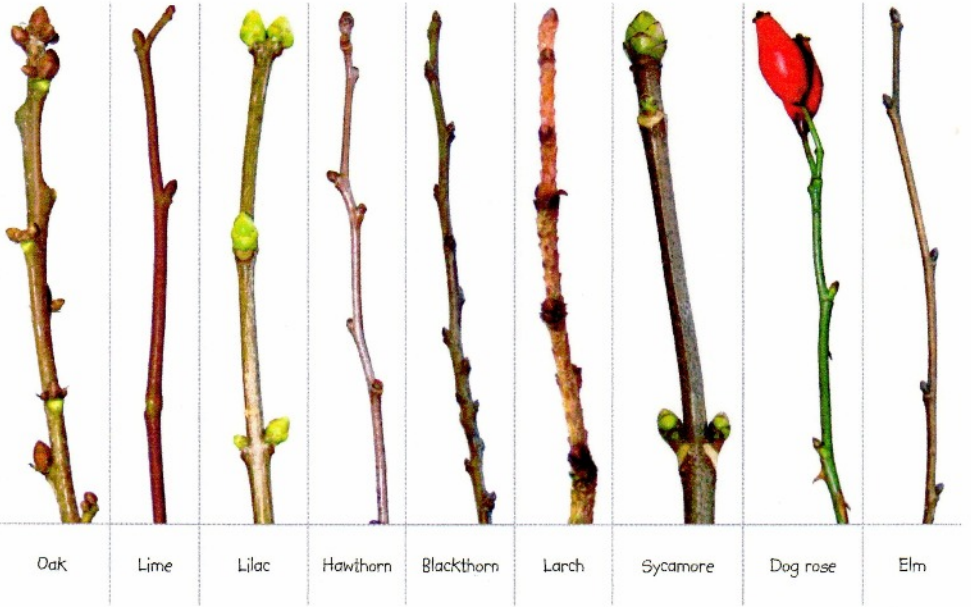
http://www.treetoolsforschools.org.uk/activities/pdfs/pdf_winter_tree_spotter_sheet.pdf

4. Make a twig identification dial

http://www.treetoolsforschools.org.uk/activities/pdfs/pdf_twig_idial.pdf

5.

Winter twigs



6.

The following calculation will help you to find the approximate age of our oldest trees.

Measure the circumference of the tree trunk in centimetres 1.3m from the ground (or at chest height). Now divide this by;

Trees in Woods.	or	Solitary Trees.	
1.88	or	2.2	for Oaks, Sweet chestnuts and Limes
2.50	or	3.2	for Hazel, Ash, Elm and Beech
2.75	or	3.5	for Sycamore
1.25	or	1.75	for Holly
3.13	or	4.0	for Pine or Spruce

So if you had an oak, growing in a wood, that had a circumference of 2.5m or 250cm it would be approximately 132 years old.

