

Activity: Make you own Bird House/Bird Feeder

This activity demonstrates the reuse of waste (the milk carton), and so decreasing some of the waste going to landfill. This activity can also begin a discussion on the limited supply of food for Irish birds, especially during the winter months, due to pollution and the loss of their natural habitats.

Age suitability: The activity can be adapted to suit classes from Junior infants to 6th class

Materials

- Milk carton or tetrapak, any size.
- Dowel, straw or pencil for perch
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Paint / brush for decorating
- String or wire for hanging

Methods

1. Wash and dry selected milk carton.
2. Staple top shut.
3. If making a "house" cut the hole only 5cm wide on one side only.
4. If making a feeder, cut four sides out of the carton.
5. Make a tiny hole on the front, on both sides, to slide perch into.
6. Slide a straw through space to make a perch.
7. Paint and decorate the
8. Attach a wire or string to hang birdhouse/ feeder.
9. Discuss the types of birds that visit gardens, habitat loss, low food supplies in winter and what kind of food that garden birds eat.

