

## How to create a recycled bottle bird feeder

### **Curriculum links:**

- DT- construction for a purpose
- Science with animals (looking at the life cycle of a bird)
- English (Following instructions)

### **Resources:**

- An empty milk bottle (plastic)
- Twine
- Scissors
- Paint
- PVA glue
- Crafty items to decorate your bird feeder
- Bird seed
- Sticks or old pencils
- Tape

### **Instructions:**

- 1) Firstly, ensure that your milk bottle is clean and dry and that the lid is securely fastened.



- 2) Now you will need your scissors.  
Cut a 'window' into the side of the milk bottle.



- 3) Repeat the process until you have two windows with easy access for birds! Be mindful that you need to leave a deep enough seed bed at the bottom of the milk bottle (approximately 4-5cm).



4) Now you are going to make a perch for birds to sit on. Take one of your shortened pencils (or any small stick, lollypop sticks work great) and tape it to the bottom of your window. We've used masking tape, but any tape will work just as well.



5) Repeat the process so that both of your windows have a perch.



- Remember, your bird feeder doesn't have to look perfect at this point. You will be decorating it later!
- 6) Next, take your scissors and make two small holes in the top of the milk bottle on either side.



7) Cut a length of string (approximately 40-50cms long).



8) Thread the string through both holes in the bottle and tie into a secure knot.



9) Now your bird feeder is ready to decorate!

We like using dried foliage along with other brown and green textures to help our bird feeder blend in but you can choose to decorate it as naturally or as sparkly as you like.



Your bird feeder is now ready to fill with seed and hang on the nearest tree!

**Support:**

This bird feeder is a really basic idea and really easy to make with children of all ages.

Older children could make this almost entirely independently and younger children would be able to carry out some of the steps, e.g. preparing the bottle and decorating.

**Challenge:**

This bird feeder is pretty easy on the whole.

The one aspect that could be a potential challenge was when initially piercing the milk bottle. As the plastic is quite tough to pierce with standard scissors, additional adult support and supervision at this point would be beneficial.

**Similar Ideas:**

There are tons of different ideas for DIY bird feeders. Here are a few additional ideas.

