



Next weekend is the BBC's annual Garden Birdwatch. Willow Brook are registered, and whether you are working from home or in school, we encourage you to dedicate an hour away from your screens and get back to nature!

Every element of the Primary National Science Curriculum requires children to observe and record what they see and even our youngest children should be able to *identify common trees, flowers and animals of the British Isles*. Data handling in maths is something that the children always enjoy and there's plenty on offer when you are making a live tally.

So, here's how you can support this week's practical science and maths...

Get ready...

The Craig family have already started to 'invite' the birds to their garden by making feeders using fat and seeds. Hanging a pinecone filled with tasty bird treats always goes down well. This will undoubtedly help to encourage your feathered visitors.

There are activity cards with recipes and ideas on <https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/schools-birdwatch/resources/> and we will put them all in our Garden Birdwatch article on the school website.

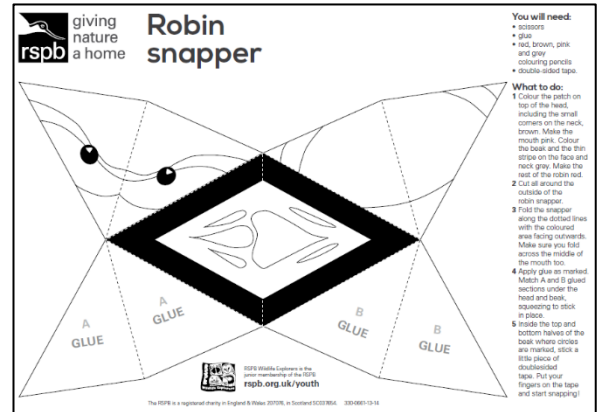
Download yourself a copy of the spotters guide and a tally chart (or pick up a printed pack at school on Wednesday).



On Thursday at 11am head to [bbc.co.uk/livelessons](https://www.bbc.co.uk/livelessons) and watch the live Birdwatch introduction. There are maths and classification resources to go with the programme here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/big-schools-winterwatch-live-lesson/zv8vn9q> together with some follow up learning for KS2.

There are also plenty of creative activities on the website.

You can use your Willow Brook email address to register your interest and results but don't forget to send a copy of what you spot to your teacher so that we can add your data to ours.



If you are working in school on Thursday and Friday, your teacher might remind you to bring your wellies so that you can use the wildlife areas around the building to make your tally. You may be lucky enough to see the buzzards who regularly fly low over the field but I'm not sure that the pheasants who often wander across the brook will count!

Get involved! You can be a twitcher by making a hide in the back garden; by venturing out to a local park or nature reserve for your daily exercise or by simply sitting at a window inside. Binoculars are great, but not essential.

Look for all the resources you need to make this a successful experience by going to the BBC Big Garden Birdwatch site or on

www.willowbrook.notts.sch.uk

Enjoy and we hope that you learn something new.

Mrs Ballard



What did you see?

Can you find a way to make it easy for you to note down the highest number of each species that you **see together at the same time**? There is room below each bird's name for you to add your idea for doing this.

Your name



Woodpigeon



Blackbird



Carrion crow



House sparrow



Starling



Black-headed gull



Magpie



Blue tit



Robin



Feral pigeon



Great tit



Chaffinch

Did you notice anything in particular about the birds you saw? Differences in how they moved or what they were doing? Or perhaps you managed to see and identify a bird not shown here? If so, note these things in the space below or on a separate sheet. Don't forget you can get help from rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdidentifier

For more information, visit: rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch

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RSPB Wildlife Explorers
and RSPB Phoenix
are the junior and teenage
memberships of the RSPB.