

FUN SUNNY DAY ACTIVITY!



Make a Bird Ball

Birds love fat balls and at this time of year they're just what they need to give them energy and keep warm. But the feeding balls needn't be shop bought; you can use all sorts of kitchen scraps such as cheese and dry porridge oats. Just mix with melted lard or suet and set in the fridge overnight. Great to hang in your garden or balcony to attract birds to your space.

Materials:

Wild bird seed (to help them fly) - Dried mealworms (a favourite treat) - Suet (vegetarian/vegan options available) - Dried berries (yum yum) - Unsalted Peanuts (to give them energy) Unsalted Currants - Sultanas Oats - Breadcrumbs - Cake crumbs - Grated cheese

Instructions:

1. Find somewhere to hang your Bird Ball from. For example, a tree, or a windowsill...
2. In a bowl, mix the bird seed, meal worms and peanuts together.
3. Put 1 cup of suet and 2 cups of the seed into a bowl and mix.
4. Put the mixture into a saucepan and heat until the suet has melted (medium heat), stirring the mixture continuously. Leave to cool for a couple of minutes.
5. Cut each bit of string to 30cm long and tie one end into a tight knot 3 times.
6. Take a handful of the mixture from the bowl, place the knotted end of the string into the middle of the mixture, and create a ball around the string using your hands.
7. Stick the dried berries/ sultanas/ currents around the Bird Ball to attract the birds.
8. Place the Bird Ball in the fridge and leave to cool overnight. Once the mixture has cooled/set, hang the Bird Ball up for the birds to eat!
9. Complete the bird identification chart overleaf and see what birds are coming to your garden.

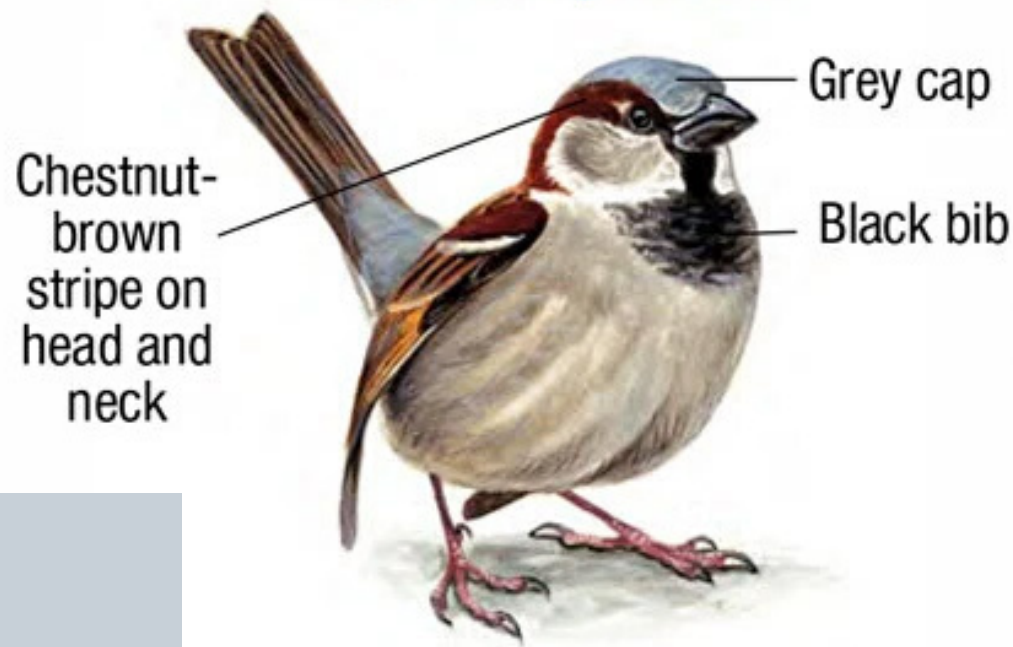


TOP 10 UK GARDEN BIRDS

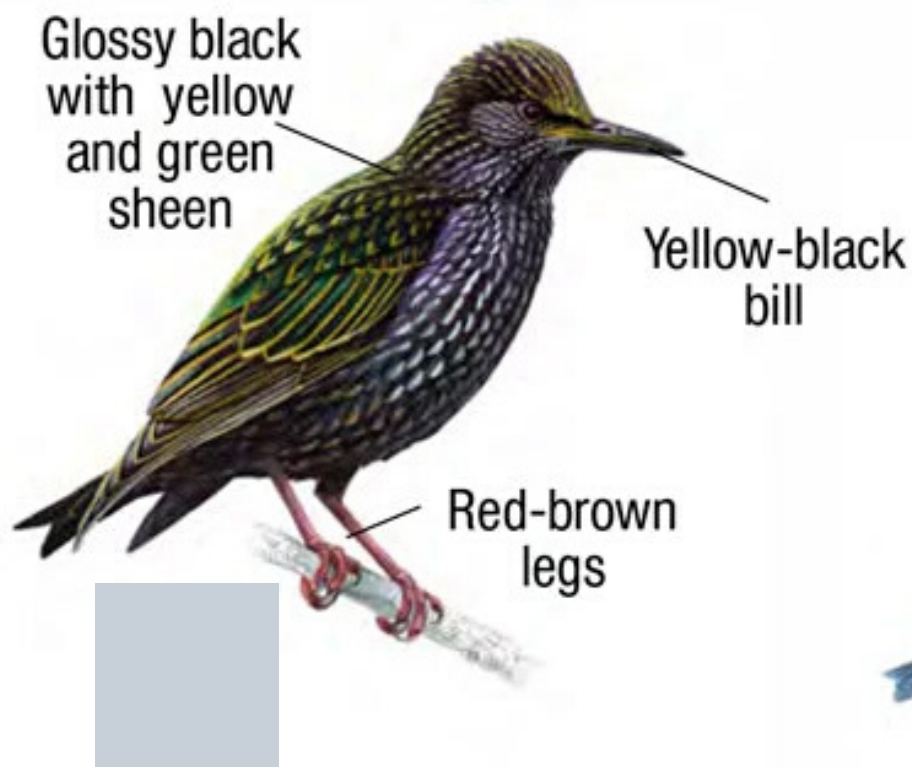


How many can you spot this week

House sparrow



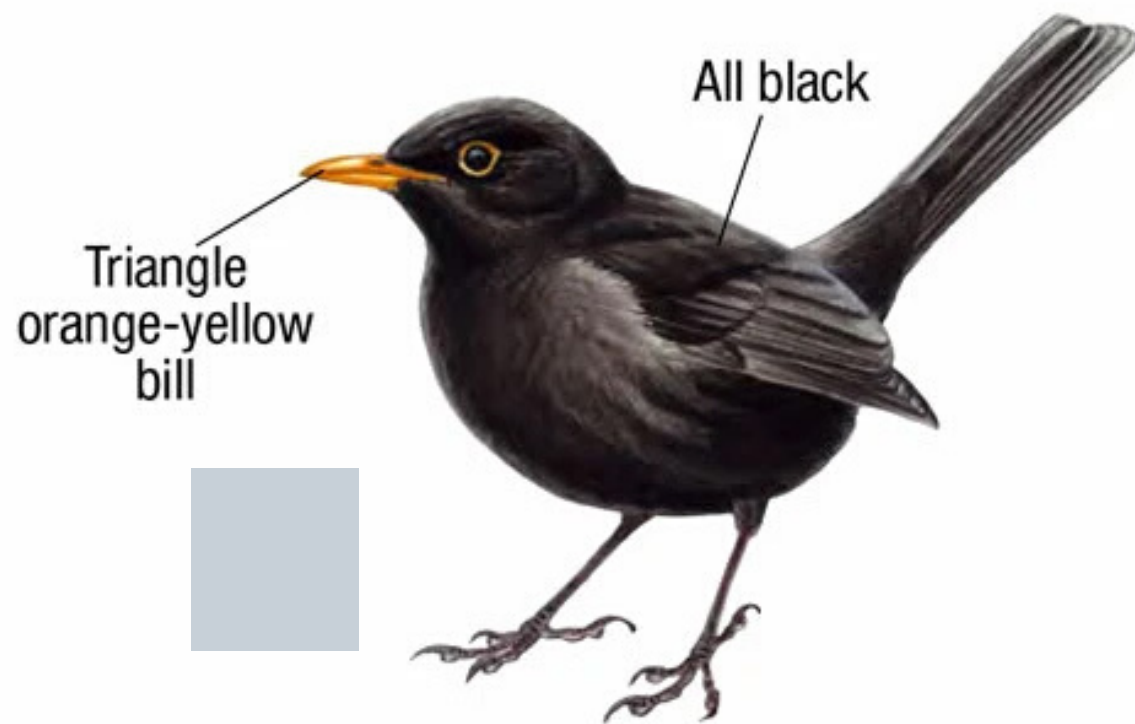
Starling



Blue tit



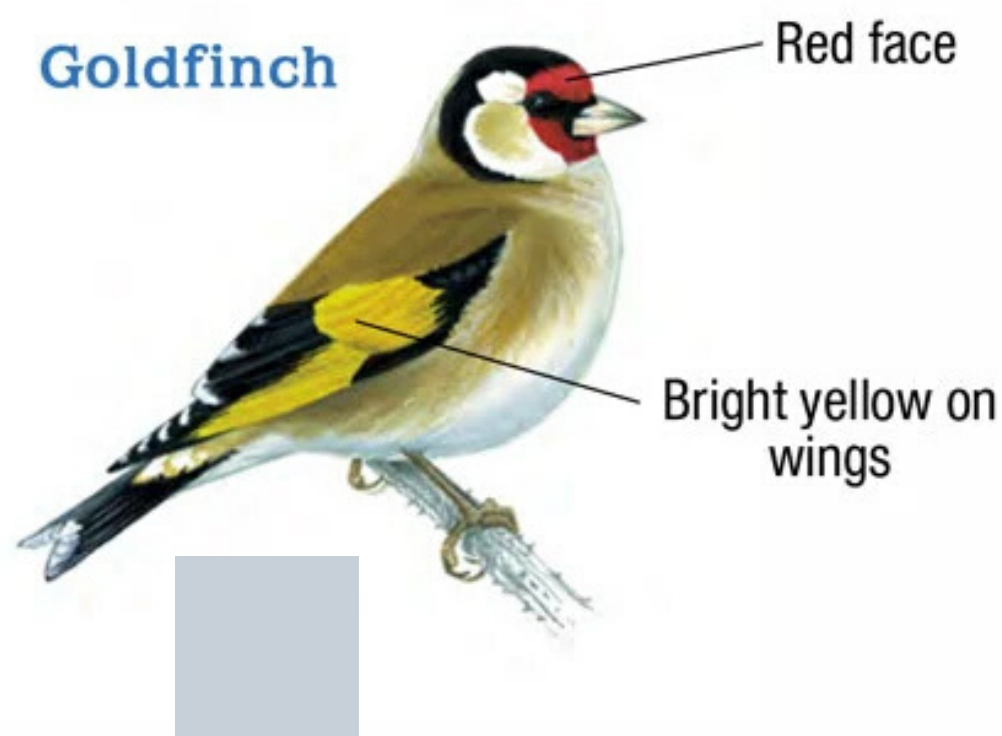
Blackbird



Woodpigeon



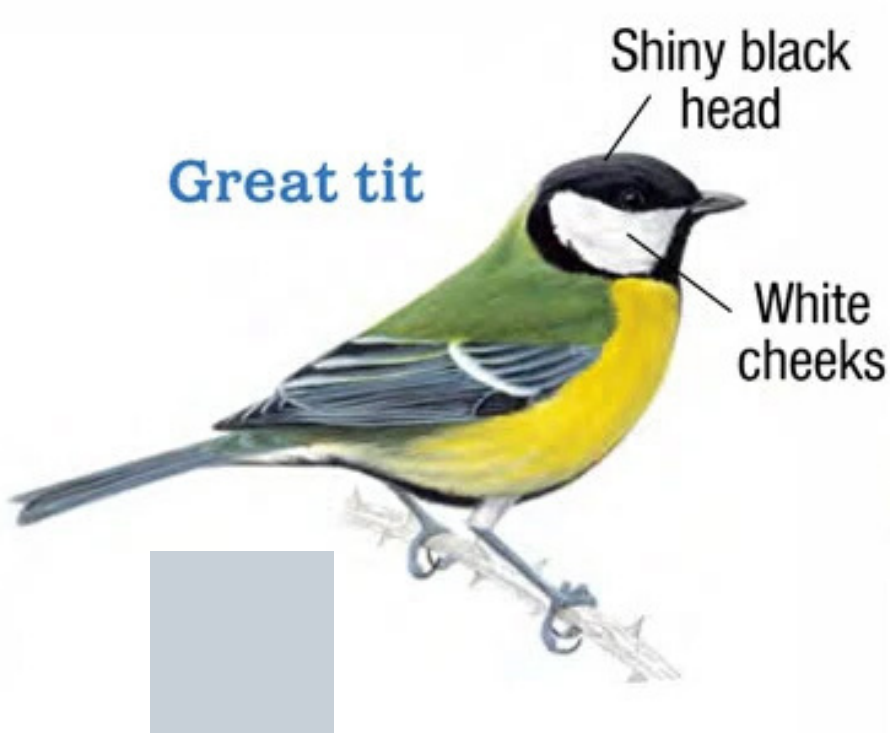
Goldfinch



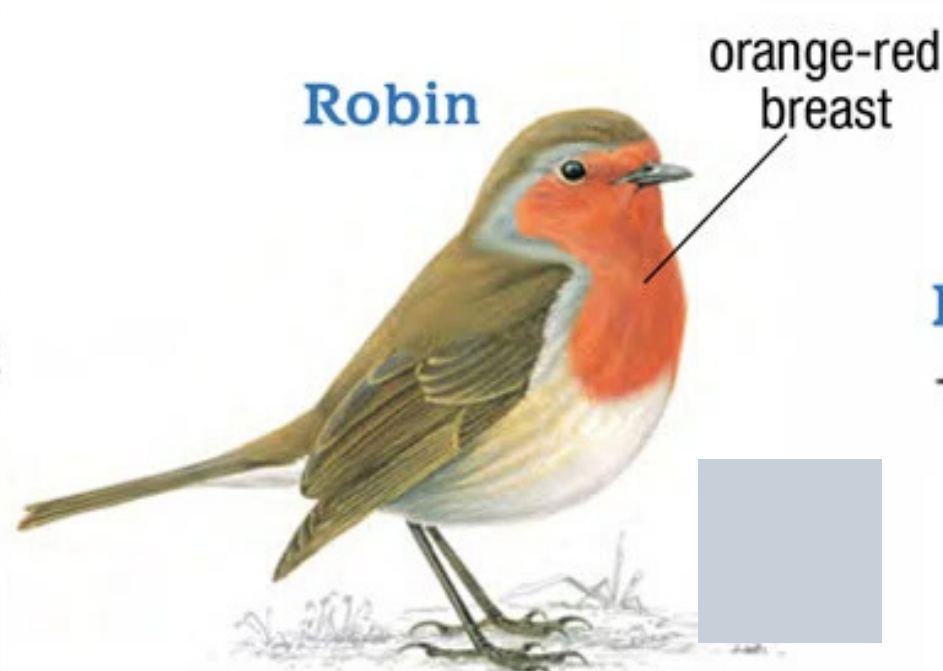
Chaffinch



Great tit



Robin



Long-tailed tit

