

## Feeding Feathered Friends



Fancy getting out into the great outdoors, rather than sitting in

watching endless telly or playing endless computer games? This might be your

big chance! Why not look into it today?

Feeding birds near to your home gives you a chance to see wild animals (yes, birds are animals) close up.

When and why: Feeding the birds in the winter can help them survive when normal foods may be in short supply or hard to find because of the wintry conditions.

<u>What:</u> Scraps of bread, cake, biscuits, cooked potatoes, chopped bacon rind, suet, cheese, seeds and dried fruit are all good. A half coconut is always a winner. If you have lots of pocket money, you could buy mealworms and maggots from a fishing shop.



<u>Where:</u> Bird tables, window sills, wall tops. Try to choose somewhere safe from cats, but which you can see from inside. Keep a list of visitors to your garden.

Water: Remember to put out a shallow bowl of fresh water for birds in freezing weather.

Don't feed: Salted nuts, desiccated coconut, bread that is too dry, mouldy food.

<u>Don't stop!:</u> In the winter, birds will soon come to rely on your food.

Once you have started, even if you are only putting out a little bit. You should try to be regular with your supply. This will bring you the greatest variety and number of birds.

http://www.rspb.org.uk

Membership to RSPB Wildlife Explorers and Phoenix lets children and teenagers enjoy learning about the natural world

• Membership packs for under 8s, 8-12 year-olds and teenagers

Wildlife Watch is the junior branch of The Wildlife Trusts and the UK's leading environmental action club for kids. If you care about nature and the environment and want to explore your local wildlife – this is the club for YOU!

There are **150,000** Wildlife Watch members around the UK. Taking part in Wildlife Watch is an exciting way to explore your surroundings and get closer to the wildlife you share it with.

- Every child is sent their own magazine, six times a year
- Children can have fun taking part in our activities and competitions

© Durham County Badger Group 2012 Adapted from information by The Wildlife Trusts. Wildlife Watch is the junior branch of the Wildlife Trusts.