

### BIRD GARDEN DIARY November 2016:

We were very excited to set up our winter bird garden. It is always the highlight of the year. Before we began we did lots of studies of the birds and ornithology. We learned how to identify birds by their actions, calls, markings, size and behaviours. We learned all of our common garden birds and were soon able to recognise and name them. We studied how to make recordings and how to set up bird watching stations, which allowed us to watch without disturbing our visitors. We also learned how to feed the birds safely and hygienically.

When all the hard learning was done we got busy making feeders and some boys donated some new feeders to the school. We also made two ornamental perches by spray painting some old trees bright blue and red and nailing them to the garden beds so that birds would have plenty of landing space and we would have lots of options for hanging our feeders.

Before we began to put food out, we recorded the amount of birds that were visiting the garden. Over the space of the week, we recorded 2 robins and a male blackbird. We put the feeders out the following Monday and began recording. We kept a tally chart of all the visitors. In the first week we saw some new visitors, the chaffinch, the coal tit, the blue tit and the greenfinch and the goldfinch. By the second week we saw lots of these birds and the feeders were occupied all the time. We could not believe how quickly the birds came.

