



## EARTH EXPLORERS

Visual Arts Summer Programme 21 June – 15 August 2009

Celebrate World Environment Day 5<sup>th</sup> June!  
*'Your Planet Needs You – UNite to Combat Climate Change'*

### Let's Explore Birds!

All types of wildlife are important to a garden. Worms help to turn the soil, bees carry pollen from plant to plant and ladybugs keep our trees free of greenfly.

Birds are very important too. They help spread seeds over huge distances and eat unwanted creepy crawlies. A good gardener looks after the birds that visit the garden by putting out bird seed.

Some birds migrate to Ireland every year like swallows who come all the way from Africa.

Do you know what birds visit your garden? Why not have a look? You can encourage more birds to visit your garden by putting out a bird seed feeder.

**Note to teacher:** Why not discuss the different types of birds with your class? What are their countries of origin? Discuss migration and the reason why birds travel to Ireland at certain times of year.

**Scissors and sharp objects are used in the making of this bird feeder.**

**Adult supervision is advised throughout.**

## Earth Explorers Visual Art Idea: Make a Bird Seed Feeder

You can attract more birds to your garden by making a simple bird feeder.

### Materials you will need:

- An empty and washed milk carton
- PVA Glue/Pritt Stick
- Lollipop sticks
- Paint
- A thin wooden stick, string/twine
- Scissors and sharp pencil
- Bird seed

### How to Make:

1. Take the empty milk carton and cut a large hole out one of the sides. **(Picture 1)**
2. Make a hole near the bottom of both sides of the carton with the scissors or a sharp pencil. Pass the wooden stick through both holes to make a bird perch. A pencil or used up pen might do. **(Picture 2)**
3. Decorate the milk carton with the paint.
4. Glue on lollipop sticks for the roof. **(Picture 3)**
5. Attach the string at the top of the milk carton by piercing a hole with the scissors and tie the string through the hole **(Picture 4)**
6. Pour seeds into the bottom of the bird seed feeder.

