

Learn all about
garden habitats!

Try the great
activities to help us!



GARDEN HABITATS!

What's good for our native birds!

WHAT HABITAT DO OUR GARDEN BIRDS NEED?



Small birds
need a
habitat –

Where they
feel safe from
predators



A predator is another creature that is a **DANGER** to them!

A predator is an animal that naturally preys on others.

It wants to –

- Chase
- Kill
- Eat

WHAT'S A PREDATOR?





DOMESTIC (PET) CATS

Domestic house cats are highly skilled **predators**.

A **domestic cat's** motivation to hunt is strong.

Even your well-fed **cat** will prey on –

- local birds
- small mammals

if given the opportunity.





DOMESTIC (PET) DOGS

Domestic dogs do not have the same predator instincts as wild dogs or domestic cats.

- However, they will often –
 - Chase
 - Wound or even kill

Smaller creatures



WILD PREDATORS

SPARROWHAWKS



- Sparrowhawks are small birds of prey. They're adapted for hunting birds in confined spaces like dense woodland, so gardens are ideal hunting grounds for them. They have long legs, so they can swoop and catch their prey while flying.
- They hunt mainly small birds.
- Males can catch birds up to thrush size.
- Females, being bigger, can catch pigeons
- Some sparrowhawks catch bats.





FOXES

Foxes are **omnivores**.

This means that they eat meat and vegetation.

A fox's diet can consist of small animals, such as voles, rats, mice, rabbits, hares and lizards.

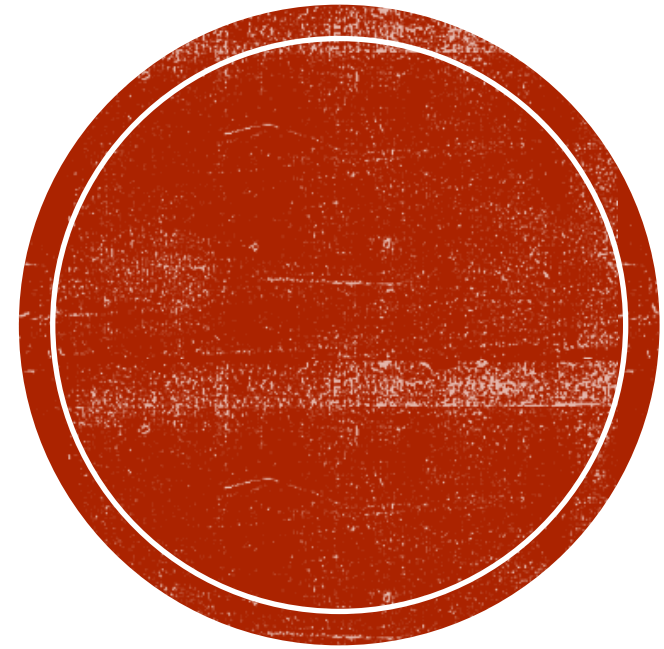
They also eat birds, fruits and insects.

They scavenge for food in towns, ripping rubbish bags and emptying bins to find a tasty treat!



**WHAT MAKES A
GOOD HABITAT**

**FOR SMALL
GARDEN BIRDS?**





TREES!

Trees are very large, tall plants with a single, strong stem called the TRUNK.



Trees are VERY important!

Birds use them to –

- Perch in
- Look out for predators
- Search for food
- Build nests in
- Roost (sleep)
- Guard their territories





MAGPIES MAKING A NEST



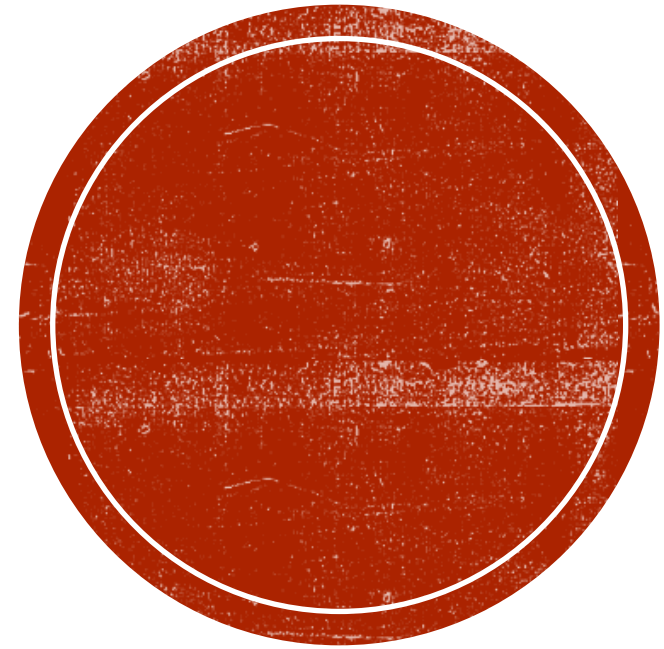
**BIRDS
ROOSTING FOR
THE NIGHT —**

**KEEPING AWAY
FROM
PREDATORS ON
THE GROUND**



**WHAT ELSE
MAKES A GOOD
HABITAT**

**FOR SMALL
GARDEN BIRDS?**





A HEDGE

- A hedge is a line of shrubs that is quite thick.
- It forms a barrier or natural fence in gardens
- It acts as a corridor (safe path) for wildlife!





BIRDS BUILD THEIR NEST -

deep inside a hedge

off the ground

away from predators!



**WHAT'S ANOTHER THING
THAT MAKES A
GOOD HABITAT**

FOR SMALL GARDEN BIRDS?



SHRUBS

- Shrubs are bushy plants.
- They can be quite high.
- They do not have a single stem (TRUNK) like a tree.
- Instead, they have lots of smaller stems.
- They are often very leafy.



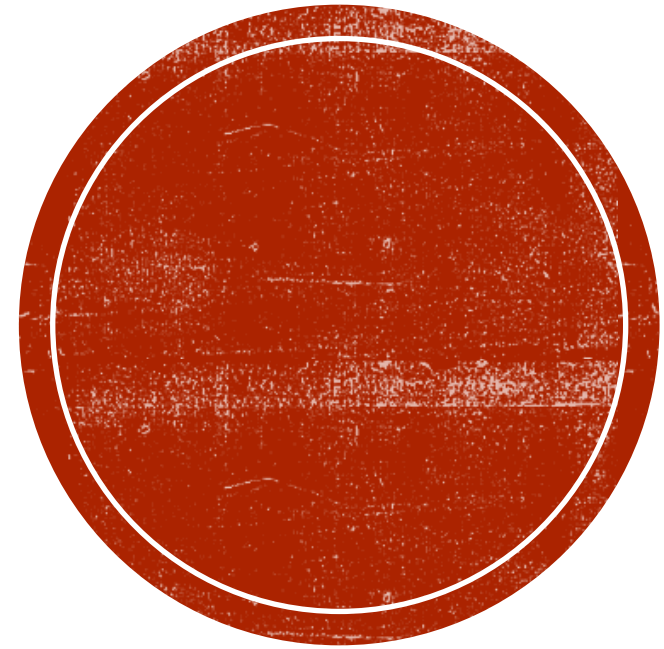
SHRUBS

- Flowering shrubs attract bees and other insects
- Some birds eat insects, caterpillars and other tiny creatures
- Birds can hop around inside the shrub, and are out of reach of most predators
- Shrubs are ideal places to roost and build a nest



**WHAT ELSE
MAKES A GOOD
HABITAT**

**FOR SMALL
GARDEN BIRDS?**



FLOWERS AT DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE YEAR





**PLANTS AND
THEIR FLOWERS
PROVIDE -**



Habitats for insects,
grubs, worms – lots of
goodies for birds!

Seeds after flowering –
perfect food for all kinds
of birds

It's a supermarket trolley
for other creatures too!

WHAT ELSE DO BIRDS NEED?

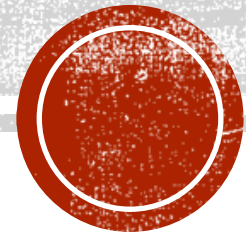


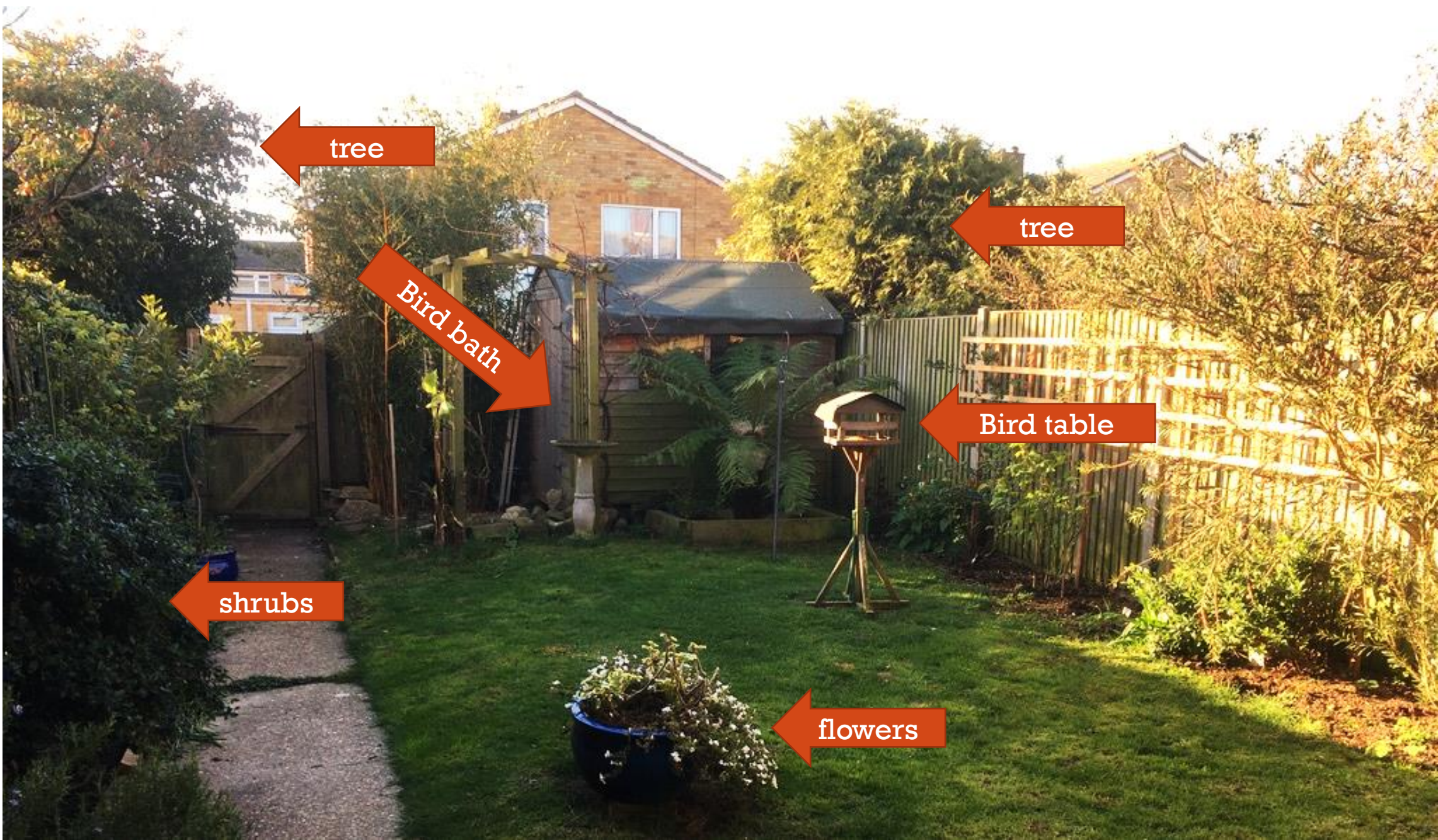
Fresh water to
drink, and to
have a bath in!





**LOOK AT THIS
GARDEN —
WHAT DOES IT
HAVE TO MAKE
IT A GOOD
HABITAT FOR
BIRDS?**





tree

tree

Bird bath

Bird table

shrubs

flowers



ACTIVITY 1

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Take a photograph of either -

- your own garden
- someone else's garden!
- the local park



- 1. Print your photo or make a PowerPoint presentation!**
- 2. Label things that make it a GREAT habitat for our small birds**
- 3. Think about what you might add to make it even better!**
- 4. Draw anything you would add**
- 5. Stick your drawings where you would put them in the garden**





The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (rsqb) has lots of lovely activities!

Follow the link



ACTIVITY 2 MAKE A BIRD FEEDER

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/games-and-activities/activities/make-a-recycled-bird-feeder/>

1

Watch out for birds in your area or garden. See if you can identify them.

2

Make a tally chart of common birds you see.

3

Note where the bird was, and what it was doing!

Here are some internet sites to help you!

<https://www.lovethegarden.com/uk-en/article/19-common-british-birds-you-can-find-your-garden>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/identify-a-bird/>

This is a great site!

Be a detective - how good are you at describing birds?

ACTIVITY 3

RESEARCH THE BIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN OR AREA

