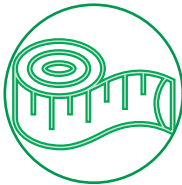
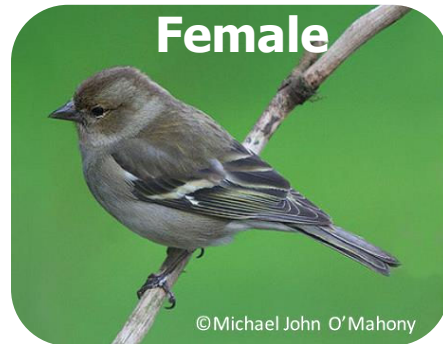


Chaffinch

Habitat Hero

Seen in Ireland:
Year round

Common Name: Chaffinch
Irish Name: Rí Rua
Scientific Name: *Fringilla coelebs*



A Chaffinch is about 14.5 cm long, with a wingspan of 24–28 cm and a weight of 18–29 g .



The Chaffinch is one of Ireland's most common finches. It is found in parks, school grounds, gardens, woodland and farmland. In winter they can form large flocks of hundreds of birds, especially in stubble fields and under beech trees.

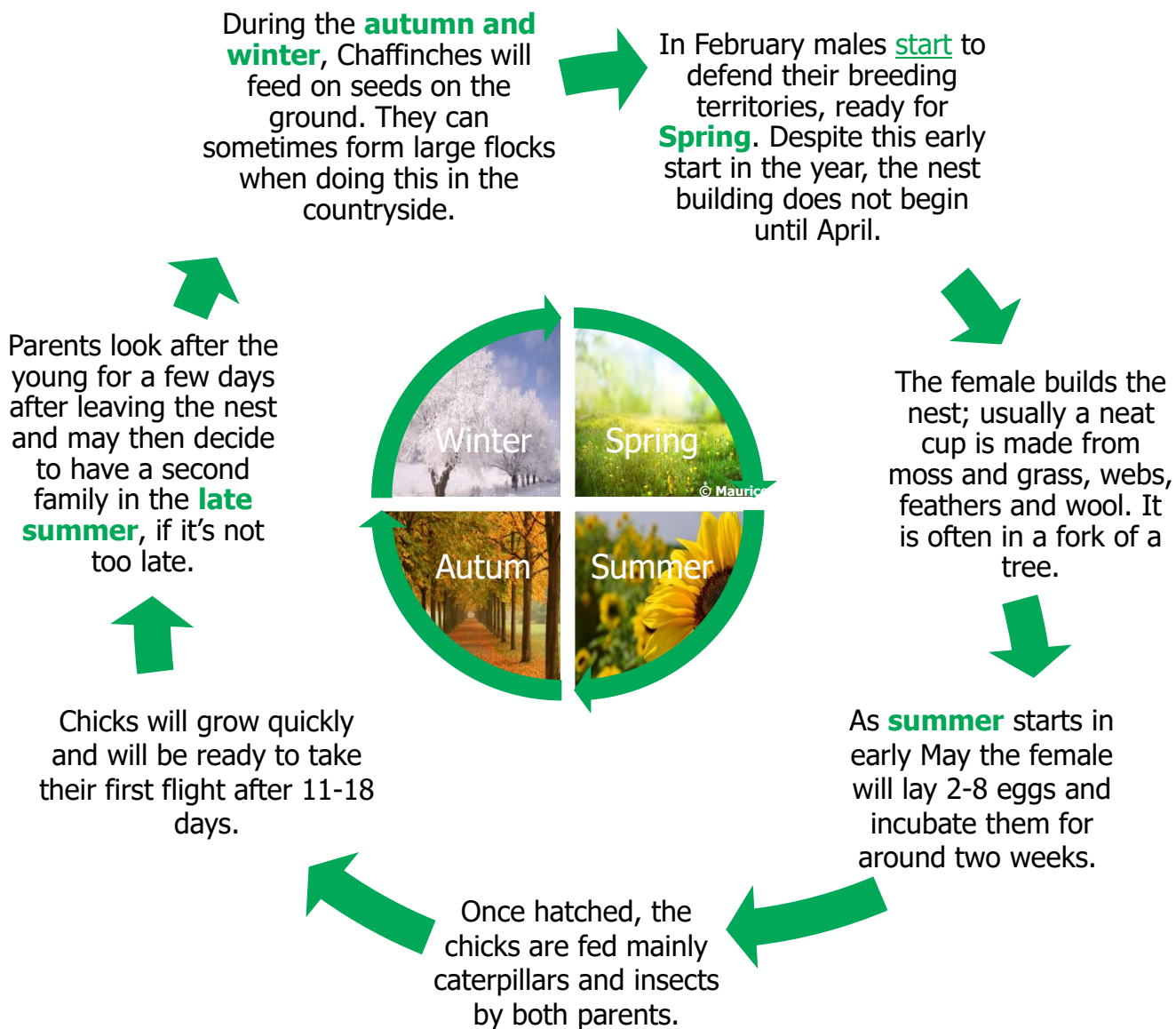


Outside the breeding season, they mainly eat seeds and other plant material that they find on the ground. During the breeding season, their diet switches to insects like caterpillars..



The chaffinch usually live for 3 years, although individuals have been known to live to a maximum of 12 or even 14 years.

Chaffinch Life Cycle



Chaffinch

Some more Facts:

- The **plumage** (feathers) of the Chaffinch is unmistakable and this species is unlikely to be confused with any other species.
- Male's breast, face and underside is a pinkish orange-brown, and they have a blue-grey crown and **nape** (back of the neck).
- The female is more grey, with washed out grey under-parts (this is good for camouflage on the nest!).
- Both male and female display large white patches on otherwise blackish wings.
- Chaffinches have been found to have regional accents, with slight differences in the typical song depending on where in the country the bird lives.

