



Bird Song in the Classroom

THE BASICS

- Suitable for ages 6+
- The bird song activities can be carried out in English or As Gailege. We will provide links to both options.
- Duration is about 40 minutes with options to extend.
- This is a really fun activity, mindfully engaging the senses by focusing on aural and observational skills.



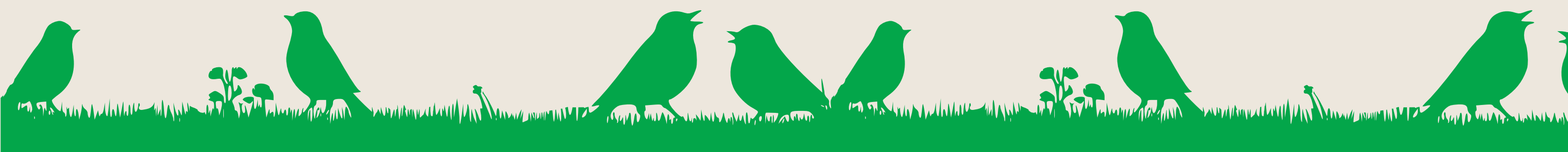
BEFORE YOU START

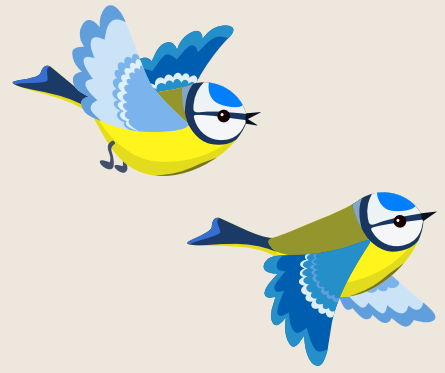
You will need a working internet connection, whiteboard and speakers.

Pick 5 birds to focus on. You can search for examples on the RSPB website [here](#) or examples As Gaeilge through Leighleat [here](#).

Try a mix of garden birds, crows, birds of prey etc to get a mixture of calls.

- [Robin/Spideog](#)
- [Blue Tit/Meantán Gorm](#)
- [Blackbird/Lon dubh](#)
- [Magpie/Snag breac](#)
- [Barn Owl/Scréachóg Reilige](#)





THE ACTIVITY

- Go to the information page for each bird one at a time.
- Look at their pictures and discuss their colour, shape, size and distinctive features like beak, feet, tail etc.
- Read about what they eat, where they live etc.
- Listen to their call.
- After you have looked and listened to each bird, discuss the differences and similarities with their calls, appearances and behaviours.
- Next turn off the screen so the students can't see which bird you are on and play the calls again with the students listening only. Tell them which bird it is as you play the call.
- Lastly, play the calls one more time and ask the students to guess which they are hearing.

FOLLOW ON OPTIONS

- Turn the screen back on and pick a bird for the students to draw a picture of.
- Go outside and listen out for the sounds of birds in your school grounds. If you have a hedgerow, patch of trees etc you could head in that direction. Ask the students to be totally silent for 30 seconds at a time and just listen! Do they hear any calls? Do any sound familiar?
- Repeat the activity with another 5 birds! Ask each student to pick a bird to carry out a project on.

