

# Ribena

Ribena Farm

The Robin's Tale

## Make your own bird feeder

We love wildlife, and for a number of years our blackcurrants growers have worked with The Wildlife Trusts to make our farms even more wildlife-friendly. For example, more than 1,000 bird boxes have been built to encourage nesting!

This summer, 12 families from our 'Tales from Ribena Farm' competition came to visit our British blackcurrant farms. As part of the experience, everyone learned how to make a bird box. Why not try and attract more birds by making this quick and easy bird feeder with your family?\*



### Bottle bird feeder

You'll need:

- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 empty and clean Ribena bottle
- Selection of paints
- 1 strong stick, longer than the width of the bottle
- 2 pieces of string, about twice the height of the bottle
- 2 foil plates, a few centimetres wider than the bottle
- Seed mix

### Instructions

**Step 1**

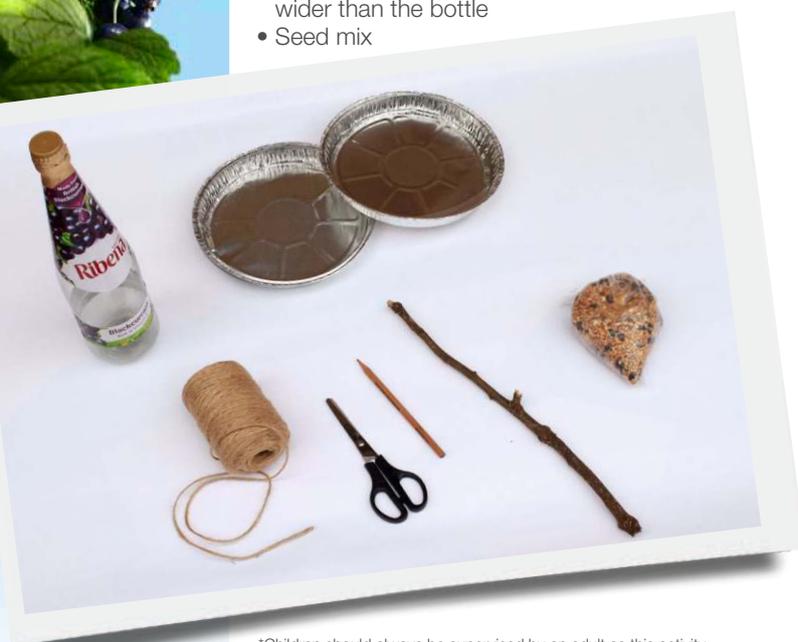
Cut off the top and bottom of the bottle – you should be left with a short tube. When you're done this is the part you'll fill with bird seed. Now is the time to paint your bird feeder before you assemble it. Use some nice colours that will go well with your garden. You might want to leave some of the bottle transparent so you can see how much seed is left inside.

**Step 2**

Then cut a small semi-circled notch out of the bottom end, this is where the seed will come out for the birds to feed. If you like you can cut two semi-circled notches opposite each other.

**Step 3**

Next, tie one piece of string to each end of your stick, about the same width apart as the width of the tube. This is to stop the bottle and plates from sliding off the string.



\*Children should always be supervised by an adult as this activity requires sharp instruments

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**Step 4** Carefully use a pencil to make two holes in the centre of each foil plate. Thread the string through the holes of the first plate so it sits on top of the stick. This will stop all the bird food falling out.

**Step 5** Now pass both bits of string up the inside of the tube. The notch end should sit on top of the foil plate. Pass the string back down the outside and through the holes you made in the bottom. Wind the string around the stick again, back up through the hole and the inside of the bottle. This makes your bird feeder really secure.

**Step 6** Fill up the feeder tube with seed mix. Thread on the second foil plate as a lid.

**Step 7** Tie the two bits of string together. Be sure to leave enough space to lift the lid up – you want to be able to re-fill the feeder!

**Step 8** You can now hang your feeder on a branch and await your bird guests. A top tip is to place it next to a window so that you can watch the birds from inside without scaring them away.



We'd like to say a big thank you to  
The Wildlife Trusts for these instructions.  
For more family activities visit [www.wildlifetrusts.org](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org)

