

HELPING WILDLIFE THIS WINTER

So, you've learnt a lot about how to take care of your pets in winter with our December article, but what about your local wildlife? They need someone to help them as they're not lucky enough to live with families who will look after them!

We know we can count on you to help them out - don't worry, we're doing all we can to help the wildlife near us too.

How you can help...



Shelter

If you can, provide sheltered areas for visiting wildlife to hunker down away from the worst of the weather.

Can you pop up some bird or bat boxes too?



Frozen ponds

If you have a pond in your garden, it's really important to check it regularly as frozen ponds can build up toxic gases which are harmful to fish and frogs that may be living in them. To prevent a pond freezing over entirely, place a ball in the pond which can be removed if it freezes, giving a hole for air to get through. Make sure you do this with your parents to keep safe!

Food

What's on the bird menu?

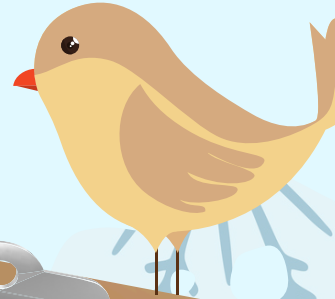
- Suet blocks/sprinkles or balls provide a great source of extra calories
- Seeds and grains
- Unsalted peanuts
- Cooked pasta or rice and boiled potatoes
- Cheese
- Raisins and sultanas
- Apples and pears



What's on the badger menu?

With badgers, only supply small amounts of food when the weather is bad, so they don't become too reliant on you.

- Tinned cereal-based dog food
- Cheese
- Unsalted peanuts
- Lightly cooked meat
- Seasonal fruits



What's on the squirrel menu?

Squirrels will have stored some food ready for the winter, but they'll still enjoy some extra help!

- Hazelnuts
- Walnuts
- Almonds
- Chopped apple
- Beans
- Carrots
- Spinach

