WHENUA ITI OUTDOORS

Nature Connection Activity #6



Make a bird feeder

Kei te manaaki ki ngā manu! - We can host birds in our bubbles!

Korihi ake ngā manu Tākiri mai te ata Ka ao, ka ao, ka awatea! Tīhei mauri ora The birds call, the day begins, and I am alive.

This whakatauki talks about the sense of wellbeing and optimism that comes with a new day. Try using this as a morning karakia today!

We all love watching manu in the garden. Why not make your garden more attractive for birds?

New Zealand's birds love fruit, fats, seeds and nectar – we can make nectar from sugar water. Birds don't do well if we feed them bread or porridge.



Sugar water feeder

Task:

Find some materials at home that you could use for a bird feeder.

Good things to use are plastic containers from the recycling, fruit, sugar, sticks and string (or harakeke, other plants or cut an old t-shirt/sheet into string)

- 2. Choose which bird feeder design you can make
- 3. Create! Decorate! And hang outside in a place that is safe from cats.
- 4. Take a photo for your record







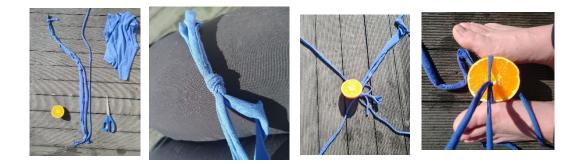
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Sugar Water Feeder

- Use a flat saucer or shallow plastic container, string and sticks.
- Place the sticks around the container. Tie them together – try using a square lashing, a diagonal lashing, or invent your own knot.
- Tie strings to the corners so that you can hang it in a tree.
- Decorate! Add bling, colour, flowers ...
- Fill the container with sugar water mix 1 tablespoon sugar with each cup of water.

Fruit Basket

- Cut the piece of fruit in half
- Get/make four pieces of string
- Tie an overhand knot in the bottom to connect all the strings together
- Place the fruit in the middle and carefully tie the opposite strings together, until all 4 strings are at the top
- You can try poking sticks into the fruit to give the birds a place to land



Looking after your bird feeder

Bird feeders can attract insects and possibly spread germs between birds. Make sure you clean them every few days. Replace sugar water or fruit. Make sure only to use sugar in your feeder - honey and food colouring are not good for birds.

Extension Activity:

Observe birds in your garden or on your walk. Where are they? What do they eat? What fruits and flowers are around to provide food? What time of day do you notice birds the most? Can you recognise which bird it is just from its song?

Me te wai kōrari

Like honey of the flax- an expression for sweetness and positivity.

