



Bird Feeder

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Use pretty china to create bird feeders for the garden. The activity itself is fun and then you have hours of entertainment bird watching to follow!

What you will need

- Old china tea cup and saucer (from a charity shop for example)
- Superglue
- Twine
- Wooden post (optional)
- Bird seed / peanuts
- Lard or other fat / peanut butter
- Mixing Bowl and wooden spoon
- Baby wipes for mess

Benefits

- This is a lovely activity that everyone can participate in.
- The end product can be admired in the care home garden or be taken home and displayed there.
- The use of old style, vintage cups and saucers is good for reminiscing.
- Conversations can be started as the activity is carried out, stimulating latent memories.



Things to remember

- Use superglue with care - you may want to fix the cups to the saucers in advance.
- Use the nail varnish remover to remove superglue from any fingers that might get stuck together!
- This can be a messy project – but it is fun!

How to



This lovely activity gives enjoyment in the long term as watching the birds feed can be done at any time of the year.

Using the superglue, fix the cup onto the saucer with the handle uppermost (see picture overleaf). Or fix to a post as above.

Allow the cup to dry.

Pour the bird seed into the mixing bowl and add enough fat/peanut butter to mix to a stiff consistency.

Check the cup is securely glued to the saucer and begin to fill with the bird seed mixture, almost to the top.

Thread a chain or cord through the handle of the teacup and hang from your favourite tree or fence post. Or if you have made the birdfeeder on a post, push the post into a flowerbed to ensure it is fixed firmly in place.

Sprinkle some loose bird seed onto the saucer or into the cup. Admire and watch the birds feed.

Alternative bird feeders

If you don't have any china, you can make shapes from melted down lard and bird seed.

Just mix the melted lard with the bird seed and pack into shaped biscuit cutters (use star ones at Christmas time).

Allow to set, make a hole with a skewer and thread a ribbon through the hole to hang on your tree.

**To find out more visit: www.dementiagarden@ltl.org.uk
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