Teacher's notes to accompany Powerpoint presentation

'Bird Feeders' (Lower KS2)

Slide no.	**Suggested points to be made for some of the slides** **(The presentation is animated to allow children time to discuss questions raised)**
1.	Get children's ideas on the answer to the question before continuing.

2.	• In winter they often flock together flying through woodlands and gardens in search of food.
	• What do you think they eat?
	  ○ Blue Tit - Enjoys insects, seeds, suet & nuts
	  ○ Great Tit - They love to eat insects, beetles, spiders, seeds, suet and nuts so fill your bird feeders up and wait for them to come.

3.	○ Goldfinch - Seeds, especially thistles, teasel and knapweed. Will also come to garden bird feeders for seed, they love nyjer seed. ○ Chaffinch - Insects and seeds. ○ Greenfinch – Small seeds, buds and berries. They also love suet pellets and suet balls for an extra energy boost.
4.	○ House Sparrow - The diet is made up of seeds, shoots, berries, scraps, insects. ○ Tree Sparrow - They are shyer than house sparrows , they eat mostly seeds and insects. ○ Robin - Worms, seeds, fruits and insects. Robins love grated cheese. Sunflower seeds, mealworms and suet.
5.	○ Great spotted woodpecker - peanuts, also eat fatty food such as suet, particularly if it is smeared on tree trunks. ○ Blackbird - Insects, worms and berries. It will help to put out some apple. ○ Nuthatch - Insects, hazel nuts, acorns, beech mast and other nuts and seed.
6.	**What do birds eat in spring and summer?** Insects, caterpillars to feed young, worms and beetles, flower and weed seeds.
7.	• In winter birds often flock together flying through woodlands and gardens in search of food. • Winter is a difficult time of year for birds, the days are short and the nights are cold, so they must eat a lot of food in a short amount of time to have the energy to survive until the morning, and during deepest winter when they can't forage as easily, feeding them can make the difference between life and death. (Contd.....)

	• Bread doesn't contain any of the vital ingredients birds need to feed and breed. • Almost any garden with a **peanut** feeder will attract Blue Tits and they readily breed in nest boxes. • **Sunflower seeds** can be fed from hanging seed feeders, or from a table. • Leftover cake, jacket potatoes, millet, oatmeal, peanuts (as long as they are not salted or dry-roasted) and animal fats can all safely be given to birds. • Don't give them anything with added salt, but birds are also partial to a bit of cheese.
8.	**Don't forget that birds need water to drink and bathe.**

9.	• Come back together.
	• Before going out - Can they think which kinds of places might be sensible in the school garden?
	  ○ Safe place (not too high or low – e.g. for cat predators)
	  ○ Easy access (birds can see them and fly in to them)
	  ○ Away from rain and wind (sheltered)
	  ○ Away from large windows (to stop birds hitting glass)
	  ○ Near a tree or a bush (where they can dart back to, to be safe)
	Go outside to work in groups to identify suitable places for their own bird feeders in the school garden, accompanied by supporting adults.
	Hang up the feeders.

10.	• Review why we have been making and displaying the feeders • What needs to be done next? – firstly – ensure that any re-usable feeders are filled regularly and cleaned if necessary. • Show the children the record sheet that they could use to keep a log of the feeder use. They may find that some of the home made feeders attract birds more than others. Can they make a note of these and then perhaps use this information to make more to put in their own gardens at home?