

4: OUR JOB - STEWARDS OF CREATION – Activity 10

## Making Fat-Ball Bird-Feeders

- 🐾 Bird seed/nuts are not suitable for human consumption, so small children need to be carefully supervised making the fat-balls mixture. Obviously too this is not an appropriate activity for anyone with a nut allergy!
- 🐾 The fat used for the feeders is not vegetarian, so some people may feel unable to participate.

**Equipment:** Suet or lard, grated cheese, raisins, bird seed, yoghurt pots (or similar), string, mixing bowl, knife, spoons, scissors.

**Activity:** Make fat-ball bird feeders and hang them in church-yard or garden.

- 🐾 Take the lard out of the fridge to warm up to room temperature (but don't melt it).
- 🐾 Make a hole in the bottom of the yoghurt pot, thread the string through and tie a knot on the inside. There needs to be enough string to comfortably hang the pot from a tree or bird-table.
- 🐾 Chop the lard into small cubes and put it in a mixing bowl.
- 🐾 Add the other ingredients and mix together with your fingers. Keep squashing and patting until it all holds together nicely.
- 🐾 Fill the yoghurt pots with the fat-ball mixture and put them in the fridge for an hour or so to set.
- 🐾 Hang up the bird-feeders in a chosen spot.

**Purpose/teaching:** We have a duty to take care of the creatures which God has made and loves. Also there are many references in the Bible to God caring for birds, and even birds nesting in his Temple (Psalm 84), so feeding them in a churchyard/garden is particularly apt!

