



NEWS DETECTIVES

TODAY'S NEWS STORY

Birder's top tips for helping birds

KEYWORDS

- ☐ **Ornithologist:**
Someone who studies birds
- ☐ **Surveying:**
Keeping a close eye on
- ☐ **Biodiversity:**
The different kinds of life in an area
- ☐ **Commute:**
A trip to work



Lara Nouri and the LEGO Group's David Pallash at the WWT London Wetland Centre.

BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Many British bird species have had a hard time since the 1970s, mostly because of changes in the way we use farmland. Fewer hedges means less space for birds to feed and nest, for example. But you can find 628 different species in the UK if you keep looking!

An **ornithologist** shared her tips for keeping birds chirpy in your garden with **The Day**.

Nature nerd

Lara Nouri knows a thing or two about birds. For years, this self-confessed "nature nerd" has studied our feathered friends.

When she's not photographing birds, Lara can be found "ringing" them — tracking a bird's movements by safely wrapping a little ring around its leg to identify it.

Building for birds

Surveying birds has helped her to learn what we can do to keep the birds around, too. Action to help birds can start in your garden, or a local park.

"Gardens make up a huge proportion of our land in the UK", she says. "Even a tiny garden, if managed for wildlife, can really see an increase in **biodiversity**."

Nesting instinct

If you're looking for birds, keep an eye out for insects. Most birds feed on them,

and so anywhere that insects can live is good for birds.

"You may see wrens doing the same route over and over", she says, as they hunt for spiders, a bit like a "little **commute**".

Berries are great for blackbirds and thrushes. And in winter, you might see redwings looking for the last few berries on a bush. Any kind of water can help too.

"It's really important to try and get as much diversity in your garden as possible."





INVESTIGATION OF THE DAY

SHOULD WE ALL LISTEN TO THE BIRDS SINGING MORE?

WHAT
do most
birds eat?

WHO
especially likes
berries?

WHERE
can you find
wrens?

WHEN
will you see
redwings in
Britain?

WHY
does Lara
"ring" birds?

HOW
big a garden do
you need to
help birds?

1 TAKE ACTION

Find out about one bird that lives in your garden or near you.

Keep an eye out for a local bird, and then use the internet or an app like Merlin to find out what it is, and some facts about it.



2 SHARE YOUR IDEAS

What have you found out in your investigation? Write, present or even record a piece that tells people about this bird species. Share what you've learned with your family and friends. What do they think? We want to hear your ideas too! Your teacher can share your reports with us too by sending them to editorial@theday.co.uk.

3 Build THE Change



CREATE YOUR DESIGN

Birds need safe places to nest, feed and shelter. Can you design a new place for a bird to nest or eat in your school playground?

STEP 1:

Design your birdhouse or bird cafe! What will the bird need to feel safe? You could take a look in a nearby park or your school playground for inspiration!

STEP 2:

Build your bird palace! Draw a picture of your design, or if you have time, make a model using LEGO® bricks or recycled materials.

Share your genius
Show your work to your class!



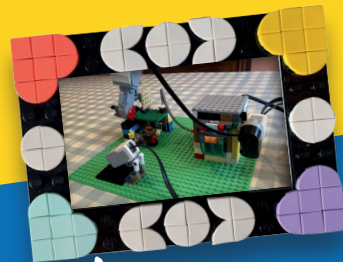
Upload a photo of your work to the **Build the Change** gallery by scanning the QR code and have your work displayed to inspire real-world change.



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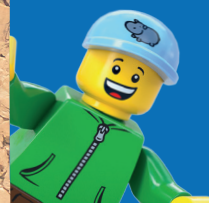
BUILDER OF THE WEEK

Every week we handpick one of the most inspirational designs from our online photo gallery to be our **BUILDER OF THE WEEK**. To get your creation featured here, ask your grown up to take a photograph and upload it to our Build the Change gallery, using the QR code on this page.



This week we have a machine that extracts electrons from food to generate electricity.

"GREAT WORK!"



This worksheet is available every weekday at 6:30am London time from <https://theday.co.uk/resources/news-detectives>.

For any feedback or help please contact buildthechange@theday.co.uk. Thank you.

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