



A Sadeh science project

Bird spotting at Sadeh

Put a tick in the right column if you see one of these birds at Sadeh. Don't forget to hand your sheet in to one of the farmers so they can save all your information.

<p>Blackbirds</p> <p>Male blackbirds are black but females are brown often with spots and streaks on their breasts. Sometimes blackbirds even have white feathers - that's a condition called leucism.</p> <p><i>What they eat:</i> Blackbirds eat a variety of foods, from earthworms to fruits like apples and berries. They also love porridge oats.</p>		
<p>Blue tits</p> <p>Loves seeds, nuts and fat A colourful mix of blue, yellow, white and green makes the blue tit one of our most attractive and most recognisable garden visitors.</p> <p><i>What they eat:</i> Blue tits are happy to use hanging feeders to grab sunflower seeds, peanuts and tasty fatty snacks. They're agile and happy to perch at odd angles!</p>		
<p>Chaffinch</p> <p>Loves hopping on the ground, looking for seeds. Male chaffinches have a subtle pink breast, while females are more brownish. They both have distinctive black and white flashes on their wings.</p> <p><i>What they eat:</i> Chaffinches are not so keen on using bird feeders and generally prefer to shuffle around on the ground, picking up seeds that other birds have dropped.</p>		
<p>Coal tit</p> <p>Small and cheeky but not as colourful as some of its relatives, the coal tit has a distinctive grey back, black cap, and white patch at the back of its neck.</p> <p><i>What they eat:</i> Look out for coal tits making quick visits to feeders for seeds or suet pellets. They don't like to hang around, and prefer to dash back to a safe perch in a tree or bush to eat.</p>		

Collared dove

"Coo-coo coo, coo-coo coo..."

Collared doves are a pale, pinky-brown grey colour, with a distinctive black neck collar (as the name suggests). They have deep red eyes and reddish feet, and are responsible for repetitive cooing songs and those twiggy nests on your satellite dish.

What they eat:

They're nervous visitors to bird tables if seeds and grains are on offer, but are a bit too big for most bird feeders.

**Dunnock**

Small and brown - likes lurking in flower beds. A small brown and grey bird.

Quiet and unobtrusive, the dunnock is often seen on its own, creeping along the edge of a flower bed or near to a bush, moving with a rather nervous, shuffling gait.

What they eat:

Some dunnocks are bold enough to brave the bird feeder or visit a bird table for any seedy, fatty scraps. But mostly they prefer to hide among shrubs or feed on other birds' leftovers on the ground.

**Goldfinch**

Brightly-coloured but argumentative!

Everyone's favourite? A

brightly-coloured finch with a red face and yellow wing patch. Sociable, often breeding in loose colonies, goldfinches have a delightful liquid twittering song and call. But don't be fooled - they can be a bit grumpy!

What they eat:

Goldfinches are seed-eaters. Make sure you stock up, as they often go around in flocks and have large appetites!

Sunflower hearts or nyger seeds are their favourites.



Great tit

Grabs seeds and flies away with them. The largest UK tit is green and yellow with a striking glossy black and white head. It's a woodland bird which has found that our gardens offer plenty of food and places to nest.

What they eat:

Like blue and coal tits, great tits make quick visits to bird feeders for seeds and fat. They also eat insects and consume a lot of caterpillars in spring and summer.



Greenfinch

Eats lots and lots of seeds...

Its twittering and wheezing song, and flash of yellow and green as it flies, make the greenfinch a truly colourful character. Males can be bright, almost lime-green, but females and younger birds are more dull.

What they eat:

Seeds, and lots of them! Sunflower seeds (with or without the shell) are their favourite food. Greenfinches are sociable birds and might visit you in a small flock - so stock up on seeds!



House sparrow

Common - but not as common as they were

Everyone knows the house sparrow, but its numbers have dropped alarmingly. They're still common garden visitors in many areas, though. Males have a black chin and 'bib'; females are dressed in more subtle shades of brown.

What they eat

Almost anything! Seeds are their favourites, though they're not too fussy and will try most foods, in feeders or on a bird table.



Magpie

Simply unmistakable!
With its noisy chattering, black-and-white plumage and long tail, there is nothing else quite like the magpie in the UK. When seen close-up, it's easy to spot the beautiful iridescent purple, blue and green tones in its feathers.

What they eat:
Absolutely anything.

**Robin**

The gardener's friend
The UK's favourite bird - with its bright red breast the robin is familiar throughout the year and especially at Christmas! Males and females look identical, and they both hold territories during winter.

What they eat:
Robins eat a lot of creepy-crawlies, including worms (which is why they like gardeners turning over the soil). They'll grab mealworms from a bird table or feeder, or snack on sunflower hearts. Fruit is another favourite.

**Starling**

Glossy, squawky and starry
Smaller than blackbirds, with a short tail, pointy head and wings, starlings look black at a distance but when seen closer they are very glossy with a sheen of purples and greens. In winter they're covered in pale spots - which gives them their name.

What they eat:
Starlings aren't picky and will eat almost anything they can get their beaks into. They can be quarrelsome on the bird table, however.

**Woodpigeon**

Now a common garden visitor
The UK's largest and commonest pigeon, it is largely grey with a white neck patch and white wing patches, clearly visible in flight. Woodpigeons also have beautiful pinkish and turquoise hints to their plumage - can you spot where?

What they eat:
Seeds and grains, and green shoots when they're out in the fields.



