

Bird Survey - Teacher Guide

Use alongside the Merlin Bird ID app

Survey Instructions

- Download Merlin Bird ID onto the device you wish to use. The app can be used offline on school devices by downloading data for particular areas of the world. [Merlin Bird ID – Free, instant bird identification help and guide for thousands of birds – Identify the birds you see.](#)
- Travel to one of the 6 pre-set sample locations and on the data collection sheet input the date, time, location number (1-6), weather, temperature (1 metre above the sample location) and wind conditions.
- Stand calmly and quietly for 5 minutes to help the birds get used to your presence. This is a great time to carry out one of the 5-minute Nature Connectedness activities, as long as it doesn't involve moving about.
- Open Merlin Bird ID on the device and record uninterrupted for 5 minutes.
- Note the bird species heard in that time onto the data sheet.
- Sense check the results. Have you got birds that you would expect, is there anything unexpected? Do you need to check by listening to bird calls online? The link at the bottom of the page might help.
- Add the data from your collection sheet onto the digital spreadsheet.



Need to check any of your sightings? Follow the QR code or go to <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/identifying-birds/bird-song-identifier-to-check>