

Name:

Date:

Activity 5 - classification:

Create your own bird song!

Birds have lots of different songs and calls to talk to each other, they can use their songs to protect their homes or attract a mate.

Songbirds regularly practise their song and perfect it; young zebra finches even practise their bird song in their sleep! Songbirds include warblers, thrushes, and finches. Some sing together like in a choir and some sing on their own. Other birds, like owls, don't really need to practise their calls and just tend to know them!

1. We are going to start off by practising a **tawny owl** call. You may recognise a tawny owl call by the famous **twit twoo** noise. This is actually the call of a male and female talking to each other. The female says 'ke-wick' *quickly* and the male says 'hoo-hoo' *slowly*. Can you try that? Can you practise with someone else too?
2. Next go outside in your garden, open a window, or use the internet to **listen** to some other bird songs or calls. If you are listening outside, try and focus on just one bird.
 - Do you know what type of bird is making this sound?
 - Is it high or low?
 - Quick or slow?
 - Simple or complicated?
 - Can you try and copy it? You could try and sing it, whistle, hum, click, use your fingers to tap!

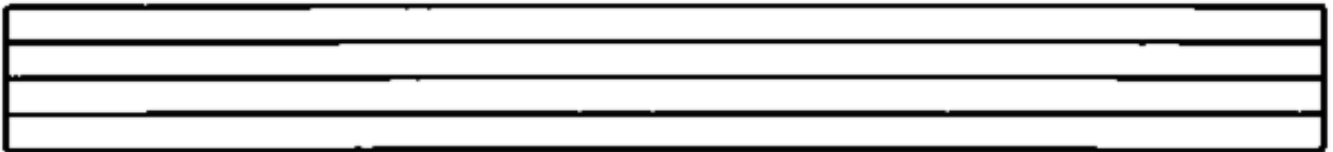
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3. Using the different types of bird songs that you have heard, **create your own bird song!**

You can write down words like we did with the tawny owl call, use sounds that you might have used when copying the bird song and record yourself, use musical instruments or make some and perform your song to your household!

If you have a musical instrument like a piano, you can use that to create your song and even try and write out the music below!

A blank musical staff consisting of four horizontal lines, intended for writing out a bird song.

Happy music making! Please do share your musical masterpieces with us on the Facebook page!