

## 1. Native species

We may not find wild flamingos here in the UK but we do have lots of other fantastic bird species. Spend 15 mins watching the birds in your garden (or even out of your window). How many different birds did you spot? For more of a challenge, try recording all the birds you see. Use the internet to help you identify them!



# FANTASTIC Flamingos

## 4. Conservation at home

The biggest threat to both greater flamingos and many UK birds is loss of habitat. Try creating a habitat for birds in your garden – set up a feeding station or add a nest box to support our native birds.

## 5. Feeding

Like most other birds, flamingos have beaks shaped to help them get their food. Flamingos' beaks are curved and have comb-like structures inside called lamellae, which filter food out of the water. Design an investigation to find out how good different shaped beaks are at picking up different shaped foods. Use household items like **spoons**, **chopsticks** or a **sieve** to represent different beak shapes. Use these to pick up a selection of different foods (e.g. pasta, peas, rice). Which worked best with which food?



### Flamingo Cam



## 2. Make and do

Head over to our website to learn more about greater flamingos using the links below.

### Flamingo fact sheet [here](https://www.marwell.org.uk/zoo/explore/animals/27/greater-flamingo)

<https://www.marwell.org.uk/zoo/explore/animals/27/greater-flamingo>

### KS1 flamingo fact files [here](https://www.marwell.org.uk/media/other/new_ks1_animal_factfile.pdf) (pages 57-60)

[https://www.marwell.org.uk/media/other/new\\_ks1\\_animal\\_factfile.pdf](https://www.marwell.org.uk/media/other/new_ks1_animal_factfile.pdf)

Craft idea! Create a collage picture of a flamingo using the magazines or craft supplies you have around the house - **don't forget to share a picture of your final collage** to use on social media!



## 3. Did You know?

Despite their famously long legs, you've probably never seen a flamingo's knees! The knees of a flamingo are actually positioned close to the body and are usually hidden under their feathers. With elongated leg bones the joint you see when they walk is actually their ankle!

## 6. Groups of animals

Flamingos are very social animals, living in large groups of hundreds or even thousands of individuals. Did you know a group of flamingos is called a flock or a **flamboyance**? Group names for animals like this are called collective nouns and they often hint at a characteristic or attribute of the animal.



Find out the collective noun for five of your favourite Marwell Zoo animals. Which **collective noun** best represents a characteristic of the animal?

## Flamingo cam!

Use the webcam link [here](https://www.marwell.org.uk/zoo/keep-in-touch/webcams) to watch the live feed of our flamingos. We have 33 greater flamingos in our flock - how many can you count?

<https://www.marwell.org.uk/zoo/keep-in-touch/webcams>

## And more...

Want something more challenging? Follow the instructions in the link [here](https://www.marwell.org.uk/media/other/greater-flamingo-behaviour-study-ks3.pdf) to carry out a flamingo behaviour study.

<https://www.marwell.org.uk/media/other/greater-flamingo-behaviour-study-ks3.pdf>