

Learning in the Leaves

Identification- Erithacus rubecula - Robin



Photo: Robin (by Les Willis)

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Distinguishing Features

- Approx 14cm.
- Young robins have brown speckled plumage.
- They moult into their adult plumage in their first autumn.
- The robin's striking red breast plumage is most noticeable in the winter months.

Interesting Facts

- In towns and cities the robin has become known as the gardeners friend. This is because it is quite tame, and will closely follow gardeners as they dig the soil and turn over worms and grubs which the robin will eat.
- The robin's striking red breast plumage is most noticeable in the winter months. For this reason they're frequently associated with Christmas, and robins are often depicted on Christmas cards.
- The female robin lays between three and seven eggs. The eggs are white with flecks of red. She incubates them for two weeks until they hatch. The young stay on the nest for a further two weeks, and during this time the male helps the female to feed the family.
- [information collated from the UK Safari Website: www.uksafari.com]