



Nest Building

The Task

Research and experiment with different nest building techniques found in nature.

How?

- Discuss / research with the pupils how different birds make nests.
- Plan and sketch possible designs.
- Select and travel to a venue with plenty of natural nest building materials.
- Collect materials.
- Build nests individually or in small groups and have fun.
- Review and evaluate each others work.
- Discuss the different styles of construction.

Considerations

- Front load the task with research on the methods used by different birds.
- Consider the environmental impacts of the activity and designs.
- Use the experience to promote a wider appreciation of local birds and wildlife in the area.



What will you need?

Area with plenty of natural materials for nest building e.g. grass, twigs, mud, stones leaves etc.





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Organisation & Layout

- Work in teams to create your nest.
- Use research to explore different build techniques and the materials used by different birds.
- Select from and use a wide range of local materials and components to build your own nest.

Learning Objectives

- Practice teamwork, cooperation and communication skills.
- Enjoy being and working outside.
- How and where to forage for good natural material.
- Gain an understanding of how birds use different materials to build complex structures.
- Gain an understanding of the natural world with a wider reference to STEM subjects.

Safety Information

- Select a safe, easily supervised area with access to the required raw materials for the task.
- Set clear rules and boundaries for the group. More controls will be needed if using a public areas.
- Ensure good sight lines and have a call back system.
- Consider hygiene and sharp objects when clearing up.

Review & Assessment

- Work in teams to create, present and peer review your nests.
- Evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work.
- Apply their new learning to another design project or task to reinforce knowledge and encourage transferability of skills.



Additional Links & Support

- [Blairvadach Nest Building - YouTube](#)
- [Weaver Birds article—Eden Webpage](#)