

Make your own bird's nest



This will really get children thinking about how hard birds work to build the perfect nest for their eggs! The game could be followed up by looking up different species of UK birds on the internet and what their nests look like. The Wildlife Trusts' website is a great place to start!

Time: One-two hours



#30DaysWild

What you'll need

- Plenty of twigs, grasses, straw and similar nesting materials
- An area to build your nest, indoors or outdoors



What to do

1. Ask your class or children to construct their own nests out of the material. Each nest should hold a pre-agreed object, such as three foil wrapped mini eggs (or something of a similar weight).
2. For a real challenge, ask the children to only their index and middle fingers on one hand to pick up the materials, mimicking a beak!
3. When the children have made their nest, ask them to look on the internet for different types of nests made by birds in the UK. You can talk about the different types of materials that different species of bird use. Are they the same materials that the children used to build their nest?
4. Discuss the intricacies of a nest. You could also try putting the nests in a tree or bush in your garden to see if they remain stable. Remember to remove them afterwards.
5. Dismantle your nest and leave the nesting material outside for birds to use!



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Designing how best to arrange and assemble the different materials is a wonderful way for those budding engineers to master solving construction problems - and helps to strengthen their fine motor skills, especially in early years.

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Philippa, early years teacher, St Michael's Primary CoE, Kent

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