



Bird Nests: Lesson plan

Appropriate for 1st and 2nd grade students

Objective: Students will understand how birds make nests and what materials they use within their environment.

Materials: Bird Nests Reading, Bird Nest Examples in Nature doc., Art Project Printable Birds doc., art materials

Vocabulary:

Nest- A structure or place made or chosen by a bird for laying eggs and sheltering its young.

Gather- Bring together and take in from scattered places or sources.

Resourceful- Using available materials wisely and creatively.

Resources: If you want to continue talking about birds in the classroom Audubon has some great educational videos and activities that students will love! Visit their page <https://www.audubon.org/get-outside/activities/audubon-for-kids>

Lesson:

- Begin by reading "Bird Nests" to the students out loud.
- Either print out or use your monitor to show the class "Bird Nest Examples in Nature" (images of what different bird nests can look like in nature)
- Tell the students they are going to do an art project and they will make their own nest for a bird
- The students can complete the art project individually
- The next day when the art projects are dry, ask if anyone wants to share the bird nest they made and what it is made of.
- Tell the students they were being resourceful just like birds are in the wild. They gathered materials around them to make a safe place for their bird to rest and lay eggs.

Art project: (example below)

Materials-

- Construction paper for the base of the art project
- Printed out colored pictures of the birds
- Elmer's glue
- Random bits and bobs to make nests (q tips, cotton balls, small pieces of trash, ripped paper, tissue paper, bottle caps, paper clips, buttons, etc. You can also gather natural materials like leaves and twigs from outside.
- Scissors
- Pencils

Instructions-

1. Show the students my example so they have an idea of what they will be doing
2. Pass out construction paper and have students write their name on one side
3. Print out "art project printable birds" there are 5 different birds on this document. Depending on your class size you will have to make several copies. You can also print out any bird photos from the internet if you want more variety.
4. Give every student a printed-out picture of a bird. With the scissors, cut out the bird.
5. Next, glue the bird picture in the center of the construction paper
6. Give each table a bowl of the random bits and bobs and glue down items on the paper where the bird nest would be. Also mention there shouldn't be any big holes in the nest, or the eggs could fall through and crack.

Example



Kingfisher