



BIRD NESTING ORBS

Episode: "For the Birdies" (11 min.)

With winter approaching, and the neighborhood birds' food sources dwindling, Nature Cat, Squeeks, Hal and Daisy set out to build bird feeders, to give the birds a much needed food boost for the winter months. But building the feeders and setting out the food is much easier said than done!

Episode curriculum goal: To attract different types of birds to your backyard, think about the different beak shapes to decide what kinds of food to put out.

Clips on PBSKids.org: "Love Ya, Birdies;" "Let's Make a Bird Feeder!"

*To view clips, visit PBSKids.org/video, click on Nature Cat and select Browse.

What You'll Need:

- 🍃 The mesh from an onion or orange bag, or a strawberry basket
- 🍃 Yarn or wool
- 🍃 Cloth (cotton) / cotton batting
- 🍃 Grass clippings
- 🍃 Thin branches or twigs
- 🍃 Leaves



Goal of the Activity:

Help birds find the materials they need to build their nests.

Tally Ho! What to Do:

- 🍃 Introduce the activity by discussing birds' nests. Ask children how nests are made, where they are found, and what materials birds use to build them.
- 🍃 Tie a knot in one end of the mesh to create a pouch (or just use a strawberry basket as is).
- 🍃 Place a variety of materials (yarn, cotton, grass, leaves, etc.) inside the mesh pouch or basket until it is full.
- 🍃 Tie a piece of string around the top of the pouch to close it, and use additional string to hang it in a tree.
- 🍃 If you use a strawberry basket, tie a piece of string on each side to create handles to hang it in a tree.
- 🍃 Check your nesting orb to see if birds are taking the materials. You can always refill the mesh or basket with more material for more birds.



The Bird Nesting Orbs activity was created in partnership with Kohl Children's Museum and WTTW Chicago

