



Crafts

Save a tree!
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Bird Feeder Bonanza

Materials:

- Milk or Juice Carton
- Construction Paper
- Crayons or Markers
- Old Shoelace
- Glue
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Birdseed

Talk About It:

Bird Talk

Invite a few feathered friends to dinner! Use recyclable items to create a decorative bird feeder. Encourage your child to notice the different kinds of birds that come to your bird feeder. What color are the birds you see? How big are they? Are the same kinds of birds coming every day? Talk together about where birds live, and what makes a happy home for a bird.

Make it:

Step 1: Things You'll Need

Collect the items from the materials list.

Little Hands Tip: How many kinds of birds can you name?

Step 2: Recycle and Reuse

Rinse out an empty milk or juice carton. Cut out a square section from the front side of the carton with scissors. Leave at least three inches from the bottom of the carton to hold the seeds.



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Step 3: Cover it with Paper

Trace and cut construction paper to match the outside of the feeder.

Step 4: Decorate It

Give the construction paper cutouts to your child for decorating.

Step 5: Time to Dry

If you used glitter or other craft supplies, leave time to let it dry before you move to the next step.

Step 6: Glue and Set Aside

Glue the decorated construction paper to the carton and allow time for drying.

Step 7: Make a Hole

To hang the bird feeder, make a hole on the lip the width of an old shoelace.

Step 8: String the Shoelace

Help your child string shoelace through the hole, and tie a knot to secure it.

Step 9: Make the Perch

Carefully poke a sharpened pencil just below the opening you previously cut. This will make the bird's perch.

Step 10: Fill with Birdseed

Ask your child to put a handful of birdseed inside the bird feeder.

Little Hands Tip: What kinds of seed do different birds eat? What else do some birds, like seagulls, eat?

Step 11: Become a Bird Watcher

Together, walk outside and look for a place to hang the bird feeder. Ask your child to help you find a place up high where other animals won't bother the birds while they eat. When you find just the right spot, hang the bird feeder and keep an eye out for feathered friends!