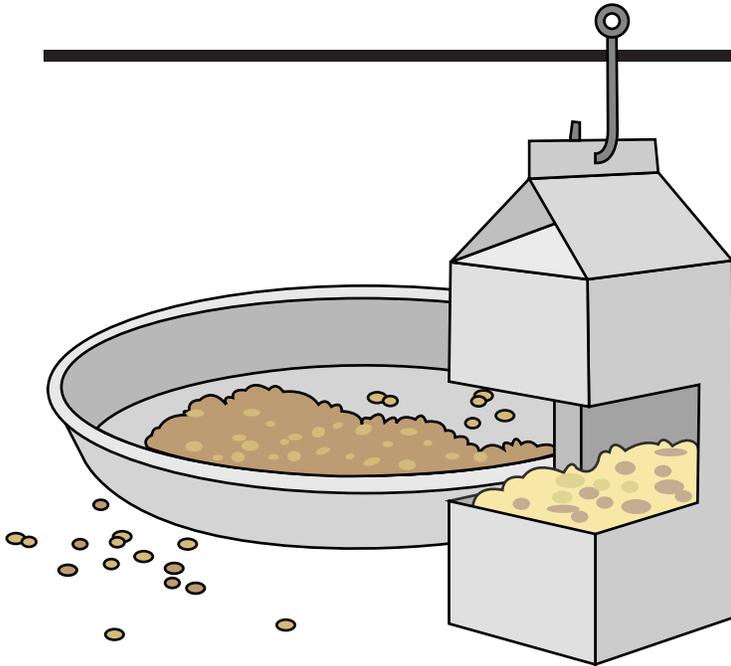




NX Projects

Birdfeeder



Overview

Bird feeders are a great way to create habitat for birds, and to invite birds to come to your house so you can see them. There are lots of different kinds of bird feeders, and most of them are easy to make from things you probably already have around the house.

Some birds like to eat from a flat platform close to the ground. You can use an old pie tin, if your parent says it's okay, and put it on a stump with birdseed for these types of birds.

Other birds prefer to eat higher up off the ground. For these birds, you can find a pinecone, put some peanut butter on

it, and dip it in birdseed. Then hang it up outside of a window where you can watch the birds that come visit it.

Another kind of birdfeeder is easy to make out of an old milk carton or a big soda bottle. Wash it out really well and let it dry. Then, cut out holes in the side so birds can get in and out. You may need to ask an adult or older sibling for help cutting out the sides. Once you're done with that, put birdseed in the bottom of the feeder and hang it outside.

You can buy birdseed at the store, or try feeding birds foods like sunflower seeds, plain popped popcorn, or peanuts. Remember that whatever you feed birds should be fresh – moldy food is bad for birds just like it is for people. If your birdseed gets wet or old, replace it with fresh birdseed. Also, birds can't eat some people foods like chocolate – it will make them sick.

Another important tip for your birdfeeder is to put it where cats can't get to it. This means it should be up high or, if it's near the ground, it should be in an open area where birds can see cats coming and fly away if they're in danger.

Materials

Birdfeeder 1

Pie Tin
Bird Seed

Birdfeeder 2

Pinecone
Peanut butter
String
Bird Seed

Birdfeeder 3

Milk Carton or Big Soda Bottle
String
Bird Seed

Links

Here's an example of a milk carton bird feeder from PBS Kids, along with comments from other kids about what happened when they put their birdfeeders outside:

<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/birdfeeder.html>

This website from the state of Wisconsin gives examples of other ways you can recycle and feed the birds at the same time:

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/earth/recycle/rbirds.htm>