

CURRICULUM BUILDERS



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CHILDCARE RESOURCE SERVICE

RESOURCE AND REFERRAL

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www.crs.ymca.org

SUPPORTING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

CRS RESOURCE LIBRARY

Curriculum Resource books are available to check out at our library. Call 619-521-3055 ext. 2304 to make a library appointment.

WEB SITES

Here are some web sites to give you more curriculum ideas:

<http://www.kidactivities.net/category/theme-birds.aspx>

<http://www.123child.com/lessonplans/animals/birds.php>

http://www.pbs.org/parents/catinthehat/activity_feeding_observing_birds.html

CONNECT WITH CRS!

Learn about upcoming events, Wellness Wednesday, Frugal Friday and more:

www.facebook.com/YMCA.CRS



ABOUT THE STORY

Are You My Mother?
By: P.D. Eastman

This story is about a hatchling bird. His mother, thinking her egg will stay in her nest where she left it, leaves her egg alone and flies off to find food. The baby bird hatches. He does not understand where his mother is so he goes to look for her. As he cannot fly, he walks, and in his search, he asks a kitten, a hen, a dog, and a cow if they are his mother.

STORY STRETCHER

We can provide guiding questions for children so that they may better comprehend the story line. Below are some examples of questions to ask.

- What is baby bird's problem?
- When did the bird go looking for his mother?
- Why does the bird ask everything he sees if they are his mother?

PINE CONE FEEDER

Creating a feeder gives birds another source of food and gives you the chance to observe them in an uncharacteristic moment of relative stillness.

Materials:

- Pinecones
- String
- Peanut butter/
vegetable shortening
- Oatmeal or cornmeal
- Birdseed mix
- Plate or pie tin



Instructions:

Tie a string around the pinecone. Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ cup peanut butter or shortening with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup oats/cornmeal. Use a spoon or your fingers to spread the mixture onto the pinecone. Make sure to get the mixture into the open areas of the pinecone. It's easier if the mixture is warm. Place birdseed into the pie tin. Roll and press seed onto pinecone until well covered. Hang the pinecone onto a tree.

LARGE GROUP TIME

During group time, you can introduce objects that pertain to birds. Some ideas to let the children touch, see, and discuss are below.

- Pet Bird
- Homemade Bird Nests
- Humming Bird feeder
- Owl pellets
- Stuffed animals of birds
- Feathers
- Pictures of birds
- Bird seeds



LANGUAGE

FINGERPLAY

FIVE LITTLE BIRDS

Five little birds in a nest in a tree
(hold up right hand)
Are just hungry as can be
"Peep", said baby bird number one
(wiggle one finger)
Mother bird promised she would come
"Peep, Peep", said baby bird number two,
If she doesn't come what will we do?
"Peep, Peep, Peep", said baby bird number three,
I hope she can find this tree.
"Peep, Peep, Peep, Peep", said baby bird number four,
She never was so late before.
"Peep, Peep, Peep, Peep, Peep", said baby bird number five,
When will our mother bird arrive?
Well, here she comes to feed her family
(use left hand as mommy bird)
They're all as happy as can be!

BIRD OBSERVATORY

Set up a bird observatory near a window. Place binoculars and bird books next to the window so that the children can view real birds.

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

STURDY BIRDY GAME

This game comes with four bean bags, cards, and two dice. Sturdy Birdy has a Yoga feel to it, as the players have to master different balance challenging poses to make it to the end of the game. The directions include hints to make the game a little easier for younger players. Players win by finishing all poses first. This game combines silly poses, while children strengthen their balance at the same time.

