

LET'S MAKE A BIRD FEEDER!

**** CAUTION: Sharp instruments are used in this craft. Adult assistance is required. ****



STEP ONE: Gather your materials!

You will need:

- Clean and dry plastic bottle (any kind or size will do)
- Jute twine (or another natural fiber string)
- Bird seed
- Exacto knife
- Scissors (not pictured)
- Permanent marker
- A wooden dowel (or bamboo skewer or pencil)
- A hole punch
- Birdseed
- Acrylic paints (optional)

STEP TWO: Draw the openings.

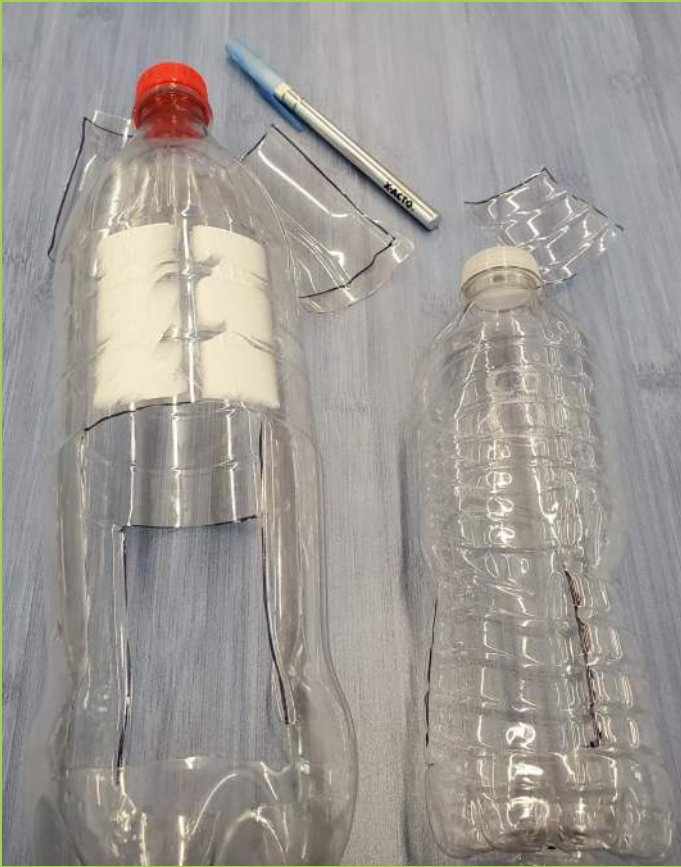
You will need:

- Permanent marker

Instructions:

- Using the marker, draw an outline of the window(s)/opening(s) you want to cut.
- A smaller bottle probably only needs one window. A larger bottle can use one or two windows on opposite sides.
- If you are making a bird house, create only one window.





**STEP THREE:
Cut out the windows.**

****We recommend that an adult complete this step.****

You will need:

- Exacto knife

Instructions:

- Using your knife, *carefully* cut around the outline you drew for your windows.
- A pair of scissors may be handy in cutting out the windows.

**STEP FOUR:
Make holes for the perch.**

****Adult assistance required for this step.****

You will need:

- Hole punch (optional)
- Exacto knife

Instructions:

- You will make 2 holes directly across from each other.
- Using a hole punch, make a hole centered below the open window about 1/4 to 1/2 inch down.
- If you only have one window (or if you don't have a hole punch) *carefully* use your knife to cut an X through the plastic in the appropriate place.





STEP FIVE: Create a hanger.

You will need:

- Two pieces of jute twine (each about 7 inches long)

Instructions:

- Tie the end of one piece of twine around the neck of the bottle below the cap. Push it to one side.
- Do the same thing with the other piece of twine, pushing it to the opposite side of the bottle.
- Gather the two dangling ends and tie them together at the top of the bottle.

STEP SIX: Paint the bird feeder! (optional)

You will need:

- Acrylic paints
- Paint brush
- Cup of water
- Paper towels

Instructions:

- Paint a beautiful design on your bird feeder.





**STEP SEVEN:
Insert the perch and
add birdseed.**

You will need:

- Wooden dowel (or pencil or bamboo skewer)
- Birdseed

Instructions:

- Insert the wooden dowel through the holes you made in STEP FOUR.
- Fill the bottom of the bottle with birdseed.

STEP EIGHT:

**Hang your
birdfeeder
outside and
watch for
hungry birds!**

TIP:

Don't have bird seed? Make a bird house instead by placing a natural fiber material (such as moss, lichen, dead grass, grass clippings, dead leaves, or straw) into the bottom of the bottle.



Want more about birds?

Check out these online resources provided through the East Baton Rouge Parish Library.

OverDrive

Picture books for non-readers:

- [*Telephone*](#) by Mac Barnett
- [*After the Fall*](#) by Dan Santat
- [*Flight School*](#) by Lita Judge

Books for beginning readers:

- [*Amelia Bedelia is for the Birds*](#) by Herman Parish
- [*The Best Nest*](#) by P.D. Eastman
- [*Flap Your Wings*](#) by P.D. Eastman

Chapter books for independent readers:

- [*Swordbird*](#) by Nancy Yi Fan
- [*The Capture*](#) by Kathryn Lasky
- [*Coo*](#) by Kaela Noel
- [*The Canary Caper*](#) by Ron Roy

Non-fiction books for all ages:

- [*Birds*](#) by DK Publishing
- [*Little Kids First Big Book of Birds*](#) by Catherine D. Hughes
- [*Hawks Kettle, Puffins Wheel and Other Poems of Birds in Flight*](#) by Susan Vande Griek.

TumbleBooks

- [*Birds: Nature's Magnificent Flying Machines*](#) by Caroline Arnold

World Book

- [*True or False? Birds*](#)
- [*World of Birds*](#)

Additional resources on birds are available through Early World of Learning, ABDO Zoom, PebbleGo, and Scholastic Teachables. Access these databases through www.ebrpl.com/kids. Your library card number may be required.