

SpringActivities Teachers' Guide Nest Building Challenge



Biodiversity and Lifecycles

Curriculum links/skills

Biodiversity

Lifecycles

Observation

Classification

Care for Wildlife

Mid to upper primary ideally

Link to video lesson: https://youtu.be/ANCINWG1xtU

Resources needed

Area where there are trees or bushes, a woodland or hedgerow, and loose material such as thin twigs, bendy stems, dead grasses, lichen, moss, feathers
Bird ID/Spotter sheets if wish

Activity Description

Stand still and listen for birdsong in your area - what different calls are noticed and can they be identified? RSPB birdsong identifier can help:

https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/bird-songs/what-bird-is-that/

Note the habitat and think of what birds might be expected here at time of year.

Purpose of singing can be to attract a mate/stake territory for breeding so loudest in spring.

Is any nest building activity noticed?

Challenge pairs of children to build a nest to hold 3-4 eggs (pebbles or cones). Where will they site, what will they use? How will it protect the eggs, hold together, withstand the wind and weatther?

Safety considerations

- Set boundaries for area to be worked in
- Only collect and use material that is lying on the ground, no longer attached to a living thing
- Take care not to pick anything that will sting, is spiky or poisonous



