



Pinecone Bird Feeder

Recommendations: For students Pre-K to Gr 3. Adult supervision is recommended. Can be done indoors or outside.

Purpose: Attract birds so you can get to know them!

Materials:

- Pinecone (*bigger is better*)
- Peanut butter (*or alternative spread*)
- Popsicle stick or butter knife to spread peanut butter
- Seeds (*not required*)
- 8 inches of string or twine

How it Works

Step 1: Lay out all the materials. If indoors, you might want to down a plate, cookie sheet, or some parchment paper for an easy clean up!

Step 2: Spread peanut butter (*or alternative spread*) on the pinecone and then – if desired – sprinkle seeds so that they stick to the peanut butter.

Step 3: Tie the string or twine around the top of the pinecone and hang it from a tree branch, fence post, etc.



That's it!

Remember this is a new food source for your neighborhood birds, so it may take a while for them to realize that they have a new place to grab a snack. Be patient and set your Pinecone Bird Feeder up in an area where you can watch from a distance. That way when the birds do take notice, you'll be there to observe.

See our "Ornithology Bird Count Activity" to further your learning while using your new feeder!

The following questions can be used to help further learning and engage students in the animals we have in our area:

What kinds of birds are you seeing? Are you able to identify the different kinds? Can you spot any features that make certain bird unique? Have you seen the same bird visit your feeder more than once? How can you tell?

Have you seen any animals visit your feeder besides birds? Which animals do you think are most likely to try and visit your feeder? Why?