

# BOOK AND BOOTS!

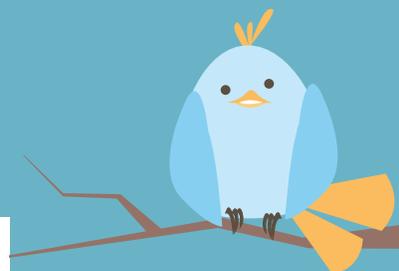


Join Tracy Aviary for story time and an adventure done safely from your own home!

## TODAY'S STORY IS: THE BEST NEST

Reading of this story can be found at  
<https://tracyaviary.org/virtual-aviary-videos>

Listen to the story together and then scroll through this pamphlet for some fun adventure ideas, games, and crafts to accompany your story time!



# WHAT IS THE BEST NEST?

Birds make all sorts of different nests depending on their habitat, materials available, and how they plan to use it!

## CUP NESTS



One of the most common types of nests; these are commonly made by songbirds such as house finches and sparrows.

## CAVITY NESTS



Birds will create holes in trees or use cavities found in dying trees. They will lay their eggs inside of these holes to keep them safe.

## PLATFORM NESTS



These large, mainly flat nests can be found high up in trees, or used to keep eggs safe above water. Bald eagles make very large ones and typically reuse them every year.

## GROUND NESTS



Some birds take a different approach and lay their eggs directly on the ground! Pelicans are an excellent example of this.



# WHAT KINDS OF NESTS ARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?



Take a walk around and see if you can find examples of nests in your backyard, neighborhood, or local park!

Be sure to stop, look, and listen to find nests! Cavity nests may be hard to spot, but if you listen closely you may just hear some peeping from inside the trees.



While walking, stop to think like a bird! If you were going to build a nest, what kind of materials would you need? How would you find them? Do you think it would be easy or hard to build a nest?



# MAKE A NEST!

Let's try our hand at being a bird and make our own nests! To make a bird nest all you will need is an outdoor space to collect materials and an egg or object to place inside .



Some good nest building materials include: twigs, grass, feathers, string, dirt, sand, etc. The materials may vary depending on where you live or what your outdoor space is like - just like it would for a bird!

Walk around outside to collect items to make a nest. Try and think if you were a bird, what would you want to make a nest out of? Bring a bucket or basket with you to help carry items back to your workspace. It is good practice to wash your hands after collecting any materials outdoors.



photo source: [www.countryroad407.com](http://www.countryroad407.com)



Once you have your items collected, bring them to a workspace (a tray or newspaper will help make the cleanup easier if working indoors) and attempt to make a nest that will hold your egg or small object! You can test the strength of your nest by lifting it or blowing on it to mimic wind. If your nest falls apart, think about what you could use to make it stronger!

