



Get Ready

Materials to collect:

1. Items for the "bird canteen":

- 4 bowls or containers representing water reservoirs,
- 6-8 disposable plates,
- 4 glasses or small disposable cups,
- 4 pictures of flowers (to put under the glasses/cups),
- pieces of bark, wood,
- fresh and dry leaves,
- (pine) cones.



2. Bird food or imitation bird food (the amount required for the whole class):

- 3,5 oz of various types of grains/seeds – e.g., sunflower, or corn,
- 10 toy mice – cat toys, or you can make them yourself out of a sponge,
- 10 small pieces of aluminium foil – cut them out in the shape of fish
- 7 fl oz dyed water (or juice) – yellow or orange. Pour it into the glasses/cups and place them on the drawings of flowers. The dyed water will play the role of nectar.
- a handful of small green plants (can be grass) – to float on the surface of the water,
- 50 pieces (about 2 inches long) of yarn (alternatively, ribbons or tissue paper) in each of the following colors: green – caterpillars (on green leaves); brown or pink – earthworms and soil invertebrates (among dry leaves); red – invertebrates feeding on wood (inserted into dead wood, pieces of bark); orange – pine cone seeds (inserted into the cones); blue – aquatic invertebrates (at the bottom of the bowl of water).



3. Items (implements) representing bird beaks – see "Tools photos" (ideally, 1 implement per student; 2 per team is good enough):

- tea infusers,
- small pliers,
- droppers,
- hairpins,
- tweezers,
- staple removers.

4. Print photos of implements representing beaks or prepare cards bearing the name of the implement.



Preparation:

On the benches in the first row, set out plates, glasses, and bowls with food (toy mice and fish, grains, and nectar) and other food hidden amongst leaves, in pine cones, and on the bark of trees.

On the benches in the second row, arrange empty plates and bowls. Students will move food from the full to the empty dishes with the help of the implements. Place a photograph of an implement representing a particular bird beak beside each empty plate. Thus each group collects food on its own plate (e.g. children with tea infusers collect food on a plate with a photo of an infuser beside it, etc.)





Movement game

Time to take on the role of birds. How would you “handle” food if you couldn’t use your hands, but had beaks instead? Try!



Prepare and arrange essential props and other items for the game before the lesson. You will find instructions on how to do this at the end of the lesson plan, in the Get Ready section (“Bird canteen” button.)

Students play the role of birds bringing food to their nests. Their task is to obtain as much food as possible. Students cannot touch food with their hands – they can only use tools representing bird beaks.

1. Divide students into groups according to the tools that they will use. There will be 6 groups: droppers, tweezers, hair clips, pliers, staple removers, and tea infusers.
2. Ask students to imagine that the empty dishes are nests in which there are chicks to feed. Remind them that it is important to bring them healthy food – bearing in mind what is edible for birds and what isn’t.
3. Give out tools to students – ideally each child in each group should have one tool – e.g., in the dropper group, each child should have one dropper. 2 per group is good enough – then students can pass on the tools, as in a relay race.
4. Students carry the food to “their” dish – which will have a photo of their tool (beak) beside it. As time is limited, allocate 5 minutes for this task. Students don’t have to collect all the food.



Look out for the students’ safety during the task – instruct them to carry their tools low, cover them with their other hand, and only use them to collect and carry food.