Children learn why habitats must have the right kind of material to help animals build their homes.

# Home Sweet Home 2



## Keywords

**slideshow • discussion • crafts action for nature • Science • English**

**1.** Discover how Sparrows build nests
Follow the sparrow's life into nest-building. Ask the children what they already know about birds' nests, why birds build them and what they use. Show the "Nests!" presentation ( Downloadable Materials). While watching, have the children notice the materials the birds used.

**2.** Try building a Nest!
Provide straw, twigs, or wood shavings and divide the children into groups. Set the materials on one side of the classroom and a "nesting site" on the other. Children go back and forth to collect materials, just like real birds! This fun activity shows how tricky nest-building can be, even with hands and fingers.

**3.** Collect materials for birds
Assign homework: children bring materials for birds to use in their nests, such as straw or twigs. Remind them to collect safely and not harm natural habitats.

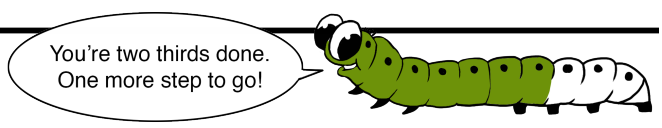
**4.** Make a nest material dispenser
At school, children create a dispenser for nest materials. Use the "*Nest dispenser*" template in the Downloadable Materials or search for other ideas online. Once ready, decide whether to place the dispensers at school or at home. Discuss where birds usually go, where nests are, and the best spots for the dispensers.

**5.** Watch and celebrate!
If dispensers are on school grounds, label them so caretakers know they are part of an ongoing project. Observe if birds are using the material, either from a distance or by checking if the materials disappear. Celebrate when the birds start using the nest materials and recognize the children's success in helping wildlife!

## Send photos of

- ☐ Children discussing presentations
- ☐ Children building dispensers
- ☐ Children building 'nests'





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## Resources & Equipment Needed

- Straw/twigs/wood shavings/dead leaves/dead grass;
- Sticks;
- Wide netting;
- Strings;



