

Materials:

- 1 empty milk or juice carton (rinsed and dried)
- Scissors or craft knife (adult help required)
- String or twine
- Wooden spoon, stick, or pencil (for the perch)
- Hole punch (or use the scissors carefully)
- Birdseed
- Markers, paint, stickers, or other decorations (optional)
- Tape or glue (optional, for decorations)



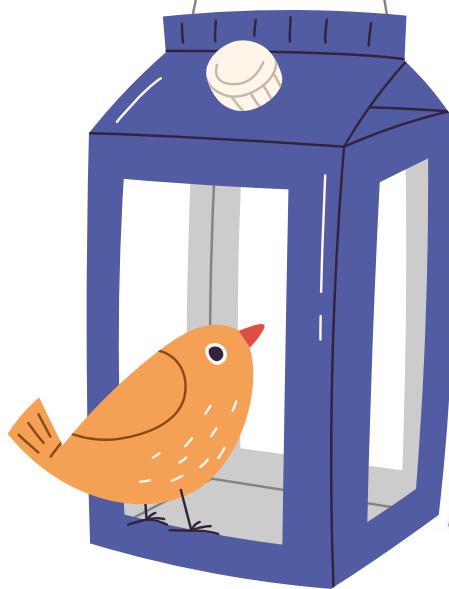
Instructions:

1. Rinse out the milk carton and let it dry completely. Peel off any labels if possible.
2. With adult help, use scissors or a craft knife to cut a square or rectangle in the front of the carton. Leave about 2 inches at the bottom to hold the birdseed.
3. Below the hole you just cut, poke a small hole through both sides of the carton. Slide a wooden spoon, stick, or pencil through the holes. This will give birds a place to land and perch while they eat.
4. Punch two holes near the top of the carton (opposite sides). Thread string or twine through the holes and tie the ends together in a loop.
5. If you want, use markers, paint, stickers, or paper to decorate the outside of your feeder. Avoid painting near the feeding hole or perch area where birds will land.
6. Fill the bottom of the carton with birdseed—just enough to cover the base below the hole.
7. Hang your bird feeder on a tree branch, porch hook, or fence post where you can watch the birds come visit. Make sure it's in a spot where birds feel safe (not too close to windows or busy areas).

or migration when natural food is
scarce. It's a great way to observe and
appreciate local birds and their
habitats. Encourage others to make
bird feeders too!

Bird Feeder Project

common diseases that can spread disease among birds. Like many other animals, birds can spread disease to humans and other animals, like cats. To make bird feeders, it's important to use appropriate bird food (not bread or human food) and to clean the feeders regularly. This is a wonderful way to support and enjoy local wildlife.



Goal:

Design:

Observations:

Next Steps:



Created With Care



As a research scientist, parent, and educator, I create every educational resource with purpose and care. I use my scientific expertise and years of teaching experience to make activities that help kids internalize scientific concepts while having fun.

I truly hope you enjoy this resource and that it helps you discover your inner scientist.

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Date: _____

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Considerations:

Bird feeders can be helpful to birds, especially during harsh weather or migration when natural food is scarce. They provide an important source of nutrition and give people a chance to observe and connect with nature. However, feeders can also cause harm if not managed properly. Dirty feeders can spread diseases, poorly placed ones can lead to window collisions, and they may attract predators like cats. To make bird feeding safe and beneficial, it's important to clean feeders regularly, use appropriate bird food (not bread or human snacks), place feeders away from windows, and support birds with native plants and safe environments. When done thoughtfully, bird feeders can be a wonderful way to support and enjoy local wildlife.

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