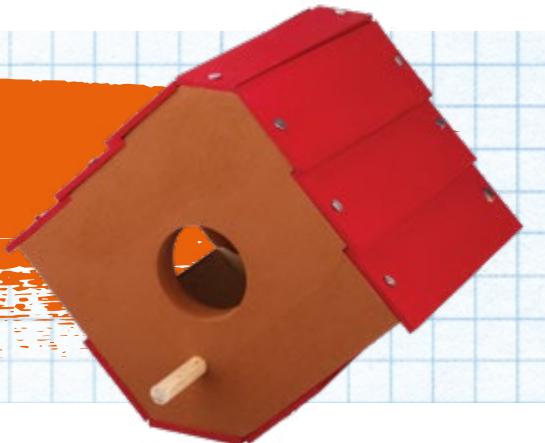


WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshop

BIRDHOUSE

Ages 5-12



Home Sweet Home

No matter the size or where it is located, a home means something special to those who live there. How would you describe your home? Write a few words that come to mind when you think of the favorite part(s) of your home.

Then dig deeper: Why do these words come to mind? What about your home makes you think of this description? Below, sketch a picture of your home that may help others understand why you feel this way. It could be a favorite room, a secret area, or the special people that make your house a home between noon and midnight (PM). Don't forget to include an activity for both the AM and PM timeslots!



Use **#KidsWorkshopExplore** to post a picture of your bird-home and nesting supplies.

House Transformation

Take a look at your birdhouse. Right now, it's just a house. But can you turn it into a home? And – more importantly – a home for a bird? Follow the steps below to make this happen:

1. Think about what changes you could make to the outside and inside of the birdhouse to help it become more welcoming and altogether more home-y for these two-legged friends. What could you add so that a bird living there may describe it using some of the words that you used to describe your own home? Use a pencil to sketch your ideas in the space below:

2. Gather up the materials in the list to the right, as well as the ideas you sketched in #1. How can you use these supplies to make your plan a reality? Label your sketches with the materials you would use to turn the house into a home. Don't be afraid to make changes to your original idea, if needed!
3. Once you have a plan in place, get to work! Think about what would make the most sense to tackle first and then get started.

You'll need...

- wood dowel
- super glue
- bird food
- custom cut plywood project panel
- exterior paint
- paint brush

Residents Wanted

Once your bird-home is complete, place it somewhere that birds can access it. Over the course of a few days, take time to observe areas where you may be able to place your birdhouse — Whether it's on a large window sill, a back deck, or a nearby tree. Try to look around outside at different times during the day and make notes of where you see birds.



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Time of Day	Location
_____	AM/PM _____

Once you have observed your surroundings for at least three days, select a location. Of the spots you recorded above, think about which one: a) has the most birds and b) is a safe, secure spot to put a home. Once you have a location, place your birdhouse there!

Settling In

Can you think of one of the most important things that many birds will want in their new home? If you guessed nest, that's right! Birds need a nest so they have somewhere to lay their eggs and raise their babies.

Help birds build a nest in your bird home by gathering natural supplies and placing them in a pile nearby. (Just make sure you don't put the materials *in* the birdhouse. That's for the birds to do!)

Take a walk around your yard or neighborhood and collect natural resources that you think may come in handy. Dead twigs, dead leaves, dry grass, moss, or pine needles are all materials that birds may like. Avoid anything that is man-made and stick with materials from nature!

Once you've created a little pile of supplies for the birds to choose from, step back and let them take it from there. This is *their* home, after all, and they're bound to be excited to try it out!

MAKE. CREATE. EXPLORE.



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