

# WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshop

## April 2023: Poolside Birdhouse

Ages 5-12

### CONNECT.

Grab a piece of paper and some coloring materials. Then close your eyes and picture a nature scene. Once you have an image in mind, open your eyes and draw what you saw. Try to add as many details as possible—thinking about the plants, trees, birds, animals, weather, and more. When you're done, place your artwork in a safe place because you'll need it later!

### INVESTIGATE.

Go outside with an adult, and observe the natural world in your own community. Think about what you see, hear, feel, and smell.

Once you've spent some time taking in everything around you, focus on one important part of nature—birds! Pay special attention to:

- Where you can find them
- What they look like
- How they fly
- What they sound like

Then reflect on what makes the birds you see similar *and* different from each other and record your thoughts below. A couple of ideas have already been added to help you get started!

Similarities	Differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All birds have wings.</li><li>• </li><li>• </li><li>• </li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Birds can be of different sizes.</li><li>• </li><li>• </li><li>• </li></ul>

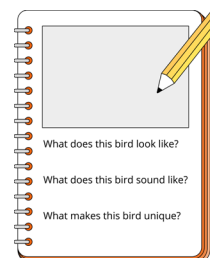
### INNOVATE.

Observing the birds that visit your new birdhouse will be a great way to continue learning about these unique animals. Let's create a journal that you can use to capture your observations!

#### You'll need:

- Your birdhouse
- Your nature drawing from the *Connect* section
- A notebook
- Scissors
- Glue
- Drawing supplies
- Ruler
- Marker
- Pencil
- String
- Tape

1. Begin by pasting your nature drawing onto the cover of your notebook, trimming it if needed. If your drawing doesn't include many birds, take a moment to add some now.
2. Create a template that you can put on each page of your journal to guide your bird observations.



A sample template is included here, but be sure to make it your own! Think about what makes birds different from each other and what interests *you* as you observe them.

3. Once your observation template is complete, use the marker and ruler to recreate it on several pages.
4. Then tie one end of the string to the pencil and tape the other end of the string to the inside cover of your journal. (Be sure it's a good length for writing and drawing.)
5. Finally, challenge yourself to use your new journal to record observations for as many birds as possible! You can observe birds that visit your new birdhouse, as well as other birds you see while you are outdoors.



In your project, your birdhouse has a pool! A **Mason** is responsible for building foundations for homes and buildings. Mason's use bricks, blocks, or stones to create walls, walkways, fences, and chimneys. These can all support and enhance structures, even pools.

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