Nest Building

Overview

A creative activity exploring how birds build their nests. Use this opportunity to consider these amazing outdoor structures, their design, and construction.



Activities

- Whether big or small, and built in a tree or on the ground, all nests have the same components – well-camouflaged, strong, sturdy and soft inside.
- Look around the outdoor space, where is the best place to create your nest?
- Use the gathered materials to build – remember it needs to stay together in the wind and the rain and be soft inside to hold the eggs and protect the chicks.

Equipment

A range of natural materials such as:

- sticks
- moss
- feathers
- leaves
- mud
- moss
- wool
- grass

Key Questions

Which materials are best for creating the different parts of the nest and why?
Why do most birds build their nests in trees or bushes?

Learning Outcomes

- Literacy / Language – discussion, reasoning, empathy with the natural world.
- Maths – use of mathematical language, scale, shape, pattern, problem solving.

Progression in Learning

- Work with the children to identify ways to make the outdoor space more bird friendly.
- Focus on lifecycles, including erecting a bird box with camera outdoors.