



Bird Food Feeders



Intended Ages

three years and older

Brain Connections

creative thinking

Materials Needed

- homemade paste (one cup flour, one cup water)
- birdseed
- wax paper
- string for hanging

I used to cringe every time one of my children would come home with a bird feeder slathered in peanut butter. Since when did peanut butter become a staple of an oriole's diet? I had to put a stop to that right away. I couldn't stand to think of those little orange birds having peanut butter stuck to the roof of their beaks.

Instead, have children use flour and water to make a homemade flour paste. Help children mix the flour and water; add more water or flour until the paste is smooth. Demonstrate for children how to use the homemade flour paste to

create a pretzel shape on wax paper, and then sprinkle it with birdseed. Allow the flour paste to dry for a day or two; then peel off the paper and hang the pretzel outside for your feathered friends. Make predictions about how long it will take before the birds find the feeders. Document observations that are made about how the birds respond to the feeders.

Extension Activities

Use different types of birdseed to draw a variety of birds to the area. Keep a chart to record the types of birds observed.

Multisensory Explorations

Do some research to find out if birds in your area are attracted to certain kinds of trees, plants, or flowers, and add branches or leaves from those plants to the feeder.

Diversity Adaptations

Obviously you will only attract those birds that hang around your area, but you can study what types of birds live in other parts of the world and what they might eat as a part of their diet.