

Spring Time Bird in a Nest

An Art Lesson for Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade (Week of May 11th).



Now that it is the Spring season, I'm sure you have noticed lots of different kinds of birds around you when you are outdoors. Birds come in all shapes, sizes and colors.

Birds are defined as warm-blooded, egg-laying animals that have vertebrae, or a backbone. They are different from mammals because they lay hard-shelled eggs and have feathers. A bird has four limbs—two that are wings—along with a beak and no teeth.

5 Major Characteristics of Birds

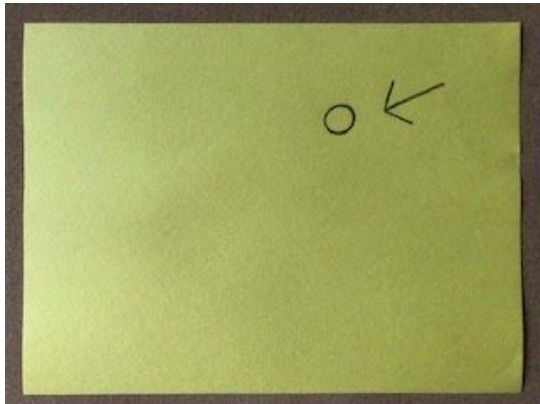
- Feathers. Feathers are the defining characteristic, found on every living species of bird.
- Wings. All birds have wings, although not all birds fly.
- Beak. All birds have beaks, or bills, made of a bony core surrounded by a thin layer of keratin.
- Birds lay Eggs.
- Lightweight skeleton.



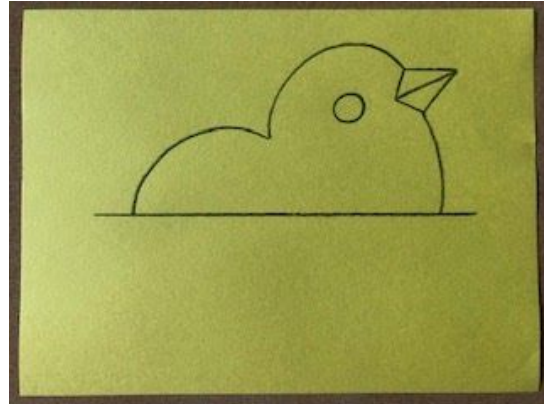
For this lesson, you'll create your own bird comfortably resting in it's nest.

The materials you will need include one bright colored piece of paper of your choice (white will do if you don't have any other colors), black crayon, watercolor paints (food coloring will work also), paintbrush and one small cup of water.

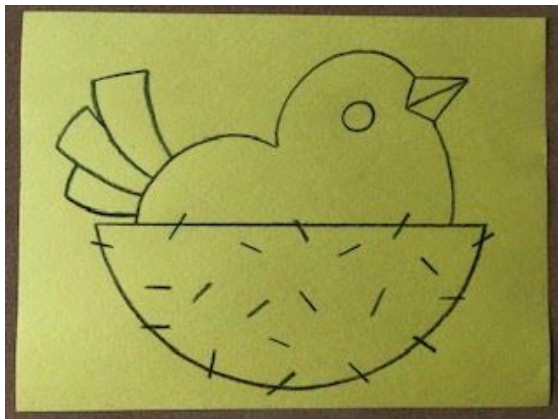
Please follow the steps below:



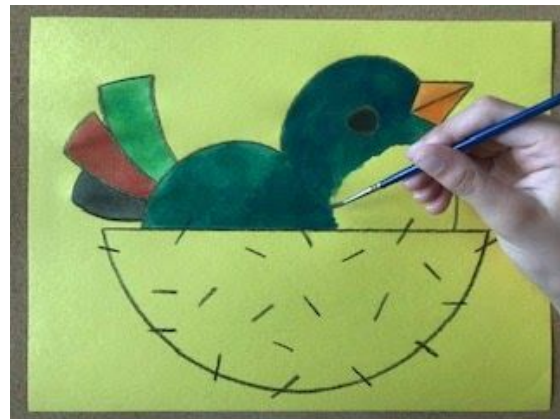
Begin by drawing a circle for the eye, then an arrow pointing towards the circle. nest.



Add curved lines for the head and body along with a straight line to start the nest.



Add in the tail and complete the nest.



Choose a variety of paint colors to use.



Let finished artwork dry before displaying.

Things to think about:

- You may want to draw the bird and nest lightly in pencil first, then trace over your lines with black crayon.
- Draw the bird and nest big taking up a lot of space.
- You can add your own details like feathers, part of the wing, a worm in the bird's mouth, etc..
- Push hard with the crayon so your lines are dark as can be.
- Choose many different colors when painting.
- Paint slowly to stay in your lines (the crayon lines really help keep the colors in their places).
- Rinse your brush after using each color and watch out not to drip.