

Needs of Living Things		Grade 1 Life Sciences
Lesson Plan	Safety Notes	Adult supervision is recommended when using scissors
<p>Description In this lesson, students will build a birdhouse and learn that animals need air, food, water and shelter to survive.</p>		
<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Milk/juice carton ● Scissors ● Stick (chopstick or popsicle stick) ● String ● Pen ● Optional: Paint, paint brushes, bird seed 		
<p>Science Background Living things such as animals, plants, insects, and humans need certain things to survive; air, food, water, and shelter.</p> <p>The air that living things breathe is cleaned by the trees, which provide oxygen for living things to breathe. The food that living things eat comes from plants (fruits, vegetables, etc.) that grow from the ground or in trees or bushes, and meat comes from different animals. The water that living things drink comes from lakes and rivers. Lastly, living things require shelters, which are their homes built using the environment around them. Humans and animals all need air, food and water and shelter.</p> <p>The shelters that animals build are all different. Bears like to make their den (their house) under a rock, a fallen tree or a brush pile. Bees build a hive or a nest, which is their home. Spiders can live under the water, some use their webs to line their burrows (hole in the ground) to make them strong, and some use their webs to make a silk nest in tree branches. Lastly, birds will find a thick hedge, branches on trees or tree cavities (holes in trees), and make a nest! The nest is made out of sticks, hay, string, and anything else birds may find on the ground. All of these animals need shelter but they all need slightly different things from their shelter. Sometimes birds will also choose to build their nest in a birdhouse, which is like a hole in a tree. By building one today we are providing birds with a safe place to live.</p>		

Activity Procedure - Making a Birdhouse

1. Make sure your milk/juice carton is empty and clean
2. Outline the shape you want to cut out for the opening using a pen or marker
3. Cut out the opening (Adult assistance or supervision is recommended)
 - This hole is going to act as the door to the house, but also will allow air to flow through the shelter, which is one of the other needs of living things.
 - Note: You can make multiple openings if you want



4. Time to decorate! This part is up to you, paint it, add stickers, be creative. Just keep in mind that it will be outside so waterproof art supplies are ideal.



5. Once the decoration is dry we can add the bird perch. Using your scissors, poke a hole in the carton about 3cm below your opening.
6. Flip the carton over and poke another hole directly across from the other.
7. Put your stick through the two openings so there is a perch on either side of the bird house. (note: if it isn't snug you can add some tape to the inside for extra support)
8. Using your scissors or pen poke a hole in the top of your carton
9. Tie your string to this hole in the carton to hang the birdhouse outside.



10. If you have some bird seed or oats you can add it to the bottom of the container.
11. You're done. Hang your masterpiece outside and watch as it attracts birds.

Debrief

The birdhouse that you built will provide birds with a safe shelter to build a nest. Shelters keep them safe from the elements and other animals. To learn more about the shelters of different animals you can work on the included handout.

What Are The Needs Of Living Things

1. Draw an animal that might live in these different Shelters

The image contains five line drawings of animal shelters arranged vertically. From top to bottom: 1. A simple house with a chimney, a door, and four windows, labeled with a '1'. 2. A beehive hanging from a branch, labeled with a '1'. 3. A spiderweb, labeled with a '2'. 4. A cave entrance in a rock formation, labeled with a '2'. 5. A bird's nest on a branch, labeled with a '1'.

1. Clipart-library.html, 2. clipart.email.html

