

# SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

**Description:** Birds Nest and Butterflies

**Author:** Mary Hager

**Grade level or Target Age Range:** Pre-School

**Vocabulary:** *Spring, Insects, Birds, Nests*

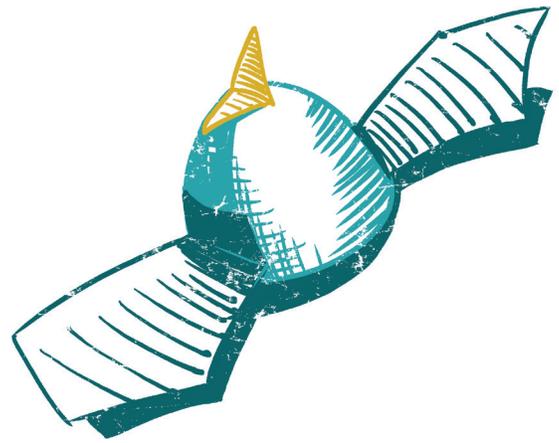
## Bird's Nest

### Materials

1. Paper plate
2. Washable brown paint
3. Glue
4. Paint brushes or foam brushes
5. Brown, blue, green, yellow, orange, and pink construction paper
6. Plastic Easter eggs
7. Picture of a birds nest or a real birds nest
8. Foam stickers such as insects, leaves, and flowers (*all things that we might find in a real birds nest*)

### Directions

1. Talk about what we notice when the weather changes and it starts to get warm outside:
  - The leaves turn green
  - Flowers bloom
  - Birds come out
  - Insects too
2. Start the project by discussing how a bird makes their nests and what they use.
  - Twigs
  - Leaves
  - Sometime even trash they find
3. Show students a real nest so they can see how a bird weaves the sticks together.
4. Start by painting paper plates brown—place and small amount of paint in the middle of each paper plate and ask students to spread it all the way to the edges.
5. Set aside to dry



6. Give each student one plastic egg and have them separate the egg. Each side of the egg will be one of the baby birds.
7. Glue a beak and wings to each plastic bird
8. Set aside to dry.
9. Now take the paper plate and do the same thing but with glue. Ask each student to spread the glue to the edges of the plate.
10. Now add strips of brown paper onto the plate the same way a bird weaves their nest.
11. Once the twigs have been added give each student the stickers for them to place on the plate wherever they choose to.
12. We did not glue the baby birds to the plates so that the students could play with them

## Butterflies

### Materials

1. Liquid watercolor
2. Tin bowls to put the watercolors in
3. Small plastic droppers
4. Coffee strainers
5. Pipe cleaners

### Directions

1. Give each student a coffee strainer
2. Demonstrate how to use the plastic droppers (*squeeze very gently so that watercolor doesn't spray everywhere*)
3. Once the butterflies have dried pinch the center and wrap a pipe cleaner around it.
4. Have the student curl the antennae