

# FOR THE BIRDS

## HOME ACTIVITIES



### BACKYARD BIRD CALL

Did you know that there are about 10,000 species of birds in the world? That's a lot of colorful feathers, interesting beaks and claws, and eggs! Birds can do what people can not. They can fly. And that is one talent that really intrigues kiddos. Let your child's imagination fly in this colorful set of activities designed to bring birds into your world—literally and figuratively.

#### GET STARTED: Recycle Cartons into Bird Feeders

Birds live all around—in trees and bushes, on roofs, in rock walls. They make nests wherever they can find a safe cranny within all kinds of habitats.

Birds are constantly on the hunt for food and water, so one way to see more birds where you live is to provide help in this area. Get started by making a bird feeder to hang near your home!

#### What you'll need:



Tap the icon to view step-by-step instructions for making recycled bird feeders.



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Now that you've made your own bird feeder, why not make your own bird food to go in it? You and your child will enjoy concocting this feast to spread in the bottom of your bird feeder. While you work, enjoy listening to "Little Red Bird," and imagine hungry birds flocking to enjoy the food you provide.



### A CHIRPER'S FEAST



#### GET STARTED: Homemade Bird Food

##### What you'll need:

- 1 C shortening
- 1 C chunky peanut butter
- 4 C yellow cornmeal
- 1 C flour

##### What you'll do:

- Soften shortening and peanut butter in a microwave (or carefully over the stove).
- Blend in remaining ingredients.
- Save what you don't spread in the feeder in an airtight container and refrigerate.

**NOTE:** You can also spread this mixture on pine cones and hang them in trees!



Tap the icon to listen to Kindermusik's "Little Red Bird."

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Birds move in so many ways! Your kiddo will love the opportunity to create personal interpretations of all the interesting bird movement names. Below is a list of words describing them. Have your child develop a move for each one.



## TAKE FLIGHT

### DANCE ALONG: “The Blackbird”

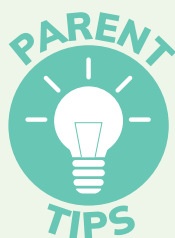
Once your child has developed “signature moves” for the words, have fun working together to choreograph a routine to Kindermusik’s “The Blackbird.” See how many different moves seem to fit the patterns found in the song. Then, enjoy watching your child’s imagination fly in a bird dance!



Tap the icon  
to listen to  
Kindermusik’s  
“The Blackbird.”

### Bird Movements:

- Alight (Land)
- Flap
- Flutter
- Hop
- Hover
- Peck
- Perch
- Preen (Groom)
- Roost (Settle)
- Soar



### FOCUSED ATTENTION

Listening is a form of attending. As you model listening in an activity, and as you patiently support your child’s sustained interest in an activity, you are helping your little one develop an important life skill: *focused attention.*





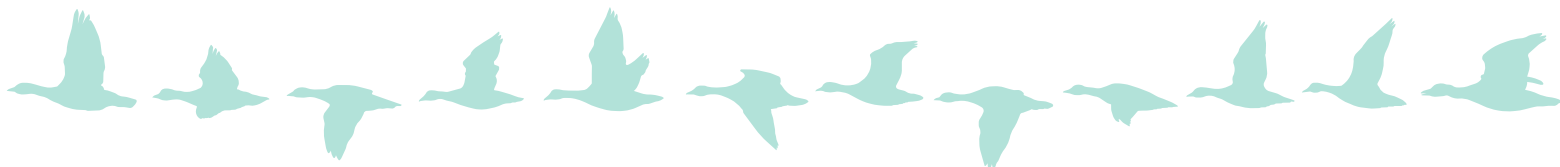
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Bird songs are so lovely and so varied.  
The words describing birds' sounds are as  
interesting as those describing their moves.  
Birds can caw, chirp, cheep, coo, twitter,  
warble...and that's just the beginning.

### FAMILY BIRDSONG

Kindermusik's song, "Bird Chorus," highlights a few bird sounds: chickadee, cuckoo, hummingbird, cardinal. It is designed to help your child listen carefully, echo the phrases, and soon be able to sing them on pitch independently. Once that happens, your whole family can enjoy singing the song as an ensemble. Each person takes one bird's part as you all sing together. You'll hear how awesome this sounds at the end of the song.



So take some time to be quiet—to listen, learn, and sing with your child. You'll feel as peaceful as you would if you were enjoying birdsong in a beautiful natural setting.



Tap the icon to listen  
to Kindermusik's  
"Bird Chorus."



Listen to this week's songs as well as dozens of additional Kindermusik favorites on the new (and totally **FREE**) Kindermusik app. Available for download in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).