

# Task Cards

## Set 5 - Nests

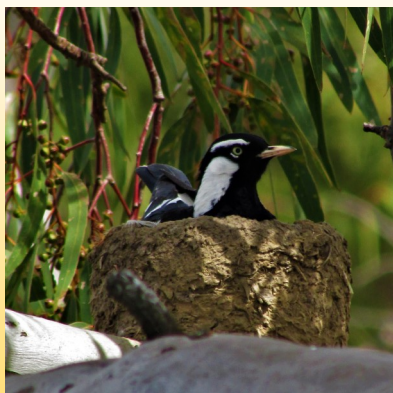
Nature Study Australia



[www.naturestudyaustralia.com.au](http://www.naturestudyaustralia.com.au)

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## Task Card #1— Go on a Nest Hunt

### Materials and Tools:

Pair of binoculars.

### Method:

Go on a nature walk.

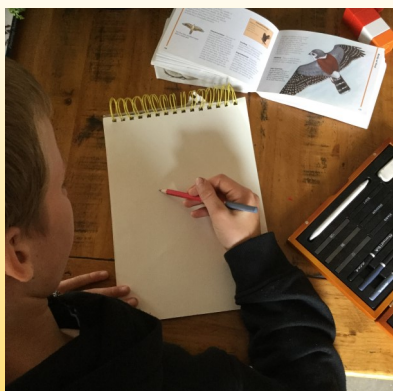
Take time to look up into the trees.

Can you see any nests?

What kind of birds do you think might be nesting?

Sit quietly and listen, can you hear any baby birds.

Wait and watch, do the parents come to the nest, or is the female bird sitting on eggs?



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## Task Card #2— Library Trip

### Materials and Tools:

Pencil

Paper

### Method:

Take time to think about some things you would like to know about birds and their nests. Make a list.

Go to your local library.

Talk to the librarian about the things you would like to find answers to. Ask them to help you decide where to look to find answers to your questions.

Take books home to read.



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### Task Card #3— In the City

#### Materials and Tools:

Sketch Book

Drawing materials

#### Method:

Take a trip to your local city.

What kinds of birds live and nest in the city? Where do they build their nests?

Look at the buildings, do you see any pigeons roosting? Are there any House or Welcome Swallows under the roof, gutter or awnings? What other birds can you find?

Take time to draw them and their homes.



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### Task Card #4— Bowerbird Bill

#### Materials and Tools:

*Count with Bowerbird Bill* by Melanie Raymond—(you can buy this from Museum Victoria).

#### Method:

Read the book and learn about the special kind of nest that the bowerbird builds.

Collect treasures and count with Bowerbird Bill.

Decorate your own bower.

Add the bower bird to your nature journal. Write some of the things that you have learned about him and draw a picture.



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### Task Card #5— Which Bird? Which Nest?

### Materials and Tools:

## Cardboard

Books about nests.

Pictures/photos of birds and their nests.

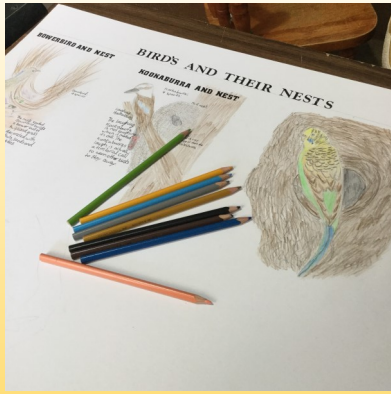
Method:

Make a poster of the different kinds of nests that birds make.

Do they nest in hollow trees? Make their nest of twigs and sticks?

Fashion the nest of mud? Or build the nest in the reeds at the waters edge?

How many different kinds of nests can you discover?



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## Task Card #6— Map

### Materials and Tools:

## Paper

Pencil and Eraser.

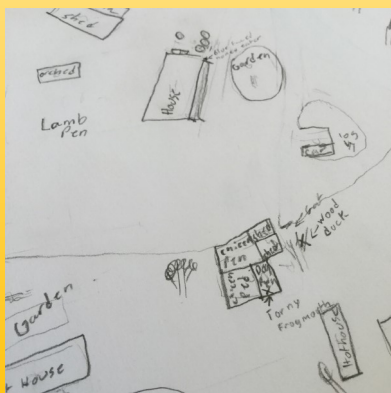
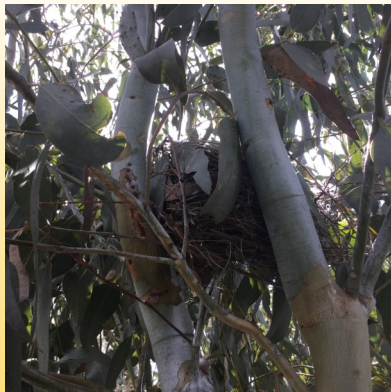
Optional—Watercolour paints

Method:

Make a map of your backyard or your favourite birdwatching spot.

Mark on the map any places that you find nests and what bird nested there.

Compare next year. Did the same birds come back to the same spot?





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## Task Card #7— Calendar of Firsts

### Materials and Tools:

Calendar/Diary—one with space to draw and take notes. You might like to buy one that has a 5 year spread or that is perpetual.

### Method:

Charlotte Mason suggested keeping a calendar of firsts. It was a diary used to record the first event of a year. The first buds on the maple tree, the first mushrooms to break through the ground. It was a way to recognise the different signs of each season.

It would be a lovely idea to add to your diary the first time migrating birds return to your garden and the nests that are built.

Go here for a free download:

<https://practicalpages.wordpress.com/2018/03/07/calendar-of-firsts-free-downloads/>



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## Task Card #8— Build a Life Size Nest

### Materials and Tools:

Branches

String

Leaves

### Method:

Using the materials that you find around you, create a life size nest in your backyard.

Have fun playing in your nest.