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# Preschool Theme Kits

## BIRDS



### BOX CONTENTS

#### BOOKS

##### **My Spring Robin**

*Anne Rockwell*

##### **A Nest Full of Eggs**

*Priscilla Jenkins*

##### **The Owl and the Pussy Cat**

*Edward Lear/Jan Brett*

##### **Are You My Mother?**

*P.D. Eastman*

##### **Who Took the Farmer's Hat?**

*Joan Nodset*

##### **Henny Penny (Book with CD)**

*Paul Galdone*

##### **Owl Babies**

*Martin Waddell*

##### **Feathers for Lunch**

*Lois Ehlert*

##### **Big Fat Hen**

*Keith Baker*

#### DVD

##### **Our Feathered Friends :**

**Adventures on a Chicken Farm**

#### TOY

##### **Bluebird Through My Window**

felt pieces

#### ADULT RESOURCES

##### **Birds of North America**

*Kenn Kaufman*

#### **ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK**

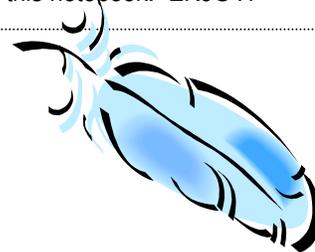
#### **BEYOND THE KITS**

**STORYTIME HANDBOOK**

**FOR YOU:** a copy of these activities is available in back of this notebook.

Welcome to the *Birds* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

### *Related Activities*



#### *-Fun and Games-*

##### **BIRD RELAY \***

Break the group up into two to four teams and have a relay. Mark out the start line and put a bowling pin or other object a suitable distance away for each team. Use a feather for a "baton" and have the first runners from each group walk like a duck, circle the pin, and run back. Each person on the team does the same. Let the children help you come up with different "bird walks" to vary the game.

##### **BIRD NEST SALADS \***

Prepare carrots to grate, letting the children help as appropriate. For each serving, you will need to mix together half a grated carrot with 1/4 cup chow mein noodles. You can stir in a bit of mayonnaise or teriyaki sauce to moisten.

Place mixture onto a plate and form the nest with back of a spoon. You can use grapes or peas for eggs.



##### **FEATHER PAINTING \***

Buy bird feathers and have the children use them as paintbrushes with tempera or water color paint. Let them create fanciful, feathery "works of art".

##### **BIRD WATCHING**

The adult resource **Birds of North America** will give you and the children the opportunity to identify any birds in your region that you don't already know, and learn more about those you do.

Spend time just looking in your yard noticing, and if possible, naming the birds you see there, in one day. Keep a "birder" list for a week or more. How many different birds can you see and identify?

*Extensions:* make toilet paper roll binoculars by taping two together and attaching a piece of yarn or string. Take a bird walk!

Make a wall chart of birds sighted.

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## FIVE LITTLE DUCKS

This is the basic rhyme-

Five little ducks went out to play  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack quack quack"  
And four little ducks came waddling back.  
And three, two, one, no ...  
No little ducks came out to play  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack quack quack"  
And five little ducks came waddling back!

And here's some *variations* to go with it.

*Fingerplay:* just use five fingers as all say the verses.

*Action game:* have the children be the little ducks. If you have nine children you have nine ducks! Lead the children around your play area and have everyone recite the poem. Each verse drop off a "little duck", behind a chair, a partition, a bookshelf. There can be more than one child in any location. When "no little ducks came waddling back", recite the last verse and have all the children come waddling out again.

*Finger puppets:* use the pattern in this notebook and make yourself 5 little ducks and one mother duck.

## BLUEBIRD THROUGH MY WINDOW

Traditional song and felt story pieces

*Fly the different colored birds through the air to a felt board or central location. On "Oh, Johnny, I'm tired-Night Night!" put your head on your hands.*

Bluebird, bluebird through my window  
Bluebird, bluebird through my window  
Bluebird, bluebird through my window  
Oh, Johnny, I'm tired  
Night-Night!  
Redbird, yellow bird, purple bird, etc.

*Hand out the different colored felt pieces and let the children "fly" them to the board. You can put the board on the floor and let children circle it while singing the verses, putting the bird down on "Oh, Johnny..."*

Idea from Nancy Stewart. Check out her website: [www.nancymusic.com](http://www.nancymusic.com) for lots of great ideas to use with preschoolers!

Birds Theme Kit

## -Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

### FIVE LITTLE BLUE BIRDS

Start with 5 fingers held up, then 4, then 3, 2, 1 and none!

Five little blue birds, hopping by my door  
One went to build a nest, and then there were four  
Four little blue birds singing happily  
One got out of tune, and then there were three  
Three little blue birds, and what should one do,  
But go in search of dinner, leaving only two.  
Two little blue birds singing for fun  
One flew away, and then there was one.  
One little blue bird sitting in the sun  
He took a little nap, and then there was none.



### TWO LITTLE BLACKBIRDS

Two little black birds  
Sitting on a hill  
One named Jack,  
One named Jill.  
Fly away, Jack  
Fly away, Jill  
Come back, Jack  
Come back, Jill

### I AM A LITTLE DUCK

I am a little duck and I go "quack, quack, quack"  
*Hands in armpits, flap "wings"*  
And I wiggle my tail in the back,  
Back, back  
*Wiggle backside*  
I swim in the water and go Quack, quack, quack  
*Paddle with hands*  
And I wiggle my tail in the back,  
Back, back.  
*Wiggle again.*



### IF I WERE A BIRD

If I were a bird, I'd sing a song  
*Make a singing beak with hand.*  
And fly about the whole day long.  
*Thumbs entwined, fly hands around.*  
And when the night comes, go to rest,  
Up in my cozy little nest.  
*Cup hands together to form nest.*

*Hands on your shoulders, or just use one finger from each hand.*  
*Move one hand forward.*  
*Move other hand forward.*  
*Move one hand behind back*  
*Move other hand behind back*  
*Bring hands back, one by one.*



### Questions or Suggestions:

Call the Youth Services Dept.  
at (360) 384-3150

### How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.