

## Make a Birdfeeder

Illustrated by Laurel Aiello

Do you like to learn big words? Here is one: *ornithology*. It means the scientific study of birds. With this activity, you can begin your study of birds by being a birdwatcher. Birdwatchers are now called birders.

### What You Need

empty ½-gallon milk or	scissors
orange juice carton	birdseed
string or wire	marker

### Do this activity with an adult!

You will use a scissors to make the feeder. Have an adult help you or get an adult's permission to use a scissors. An adult may have to push the scissors into the carton to get you started.

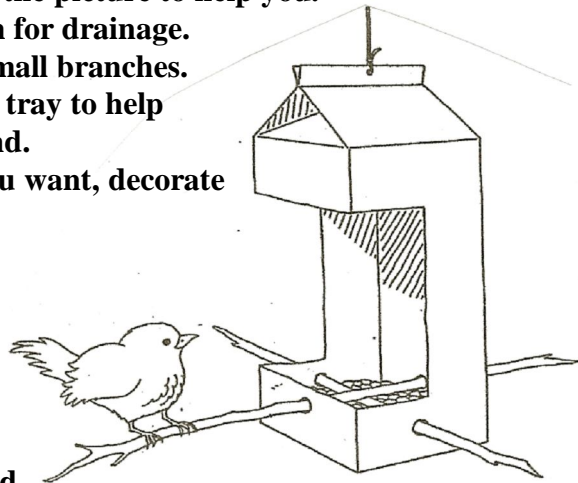
### Making the Birdfeeder

1. Wash out the ½-gallon carton.
2. Mark the carton and then cut out the section. Use the picture to help you.
3. Make a few small holes in the bottom of the carton for drainage.
4. You can make holes and then push through two small branches. The birds can perch on these. Add some rocks to the tray to help prevent the feeder from swaying too much in the wind.
5. Make a hole in the top and tie string or wire. If you want, decorate the feeder but not the branches.

### Locating the Birdfeeder

Place birdseed in the feeder. Hang your feeder outside where squirrels can't reach it. How long the feeder lasts depends on the weather. You can replace the feeder since it is easy to make.

**Important:** It can take a few days for the birds to find the feeder. Once they locate it, they may continue visiting it. You now have the responsibility of keeping food in the feeder.



### Observing the Birds

Keep a record of the birds visiting your feeder. A web site that can help identify birds is:

<http://www.wildbirds.com/default.aspx?tabid=674>