

## Endless Pawsabilities—Week 6 Backyard Habitat

Make one of the backyard habitats below.



### Butterfly Feeder

You can make a beautiful butterfly feeder out of a pie tin! Punch four even holes in the pie tin, insert the string through the holes, then tie a big knot at the bottom so that the beads do not fall through the pie tin. Create a pattern of the beads on each string. Make sure you use colorful beads, as butterflies love bold colors. Tie the strings at the top and hang the feeder. Fill it with fresh fruits like bananas and oranges.

Ask at the Children's Office for a bag of beads to decorate your feeder.

### Bird Feeders

#### How to make a plastic milk container bird feeder



For this simple project, gather a plastic milk container, scissors, and string. A portion of the plastic sides of the container will be cut away allowing the bird to eat from the inside, bottom of the container.

**Step 1.** On the side(s) opposite the handle, cut away some of the plastic from the container - either cut away a complete square or cut on 3 sides and fold the plastic back.

**Step 2.** Cut a long piece of string. Put one end of the string through the handle and then tie the ends of the string together creating a loop.

**Step 3.** Fill the inside, bottom of the container with bird seed. Hang the feeder from a tree.

#### aluminum can bird feeder



**Step 1.** Place 3 plastic straws together, flat, beside each other. Keeping the straws together, wrap duct tape around the straws.

**Step 2.** Place the taped straws, or a stick, on the bottom of the aluminum can. Attach to the can with duct tape.

**Step 3.** Cut a large piece of string. Place the middle of the string on the top of the aluminum can. Attach string to the can with duct tape. Tie the ends of the string to make a loop.

**Step 4.** Fill the bottom of the can with bird seed. Hang the feeder from a tree in your yard.

## Create a bird-friendly habitat

Offering food in feeders is a great first step in creating a bird-friendly habitat in your own backyard. Here are a few more simple steps you can take to attract birds to your yard.

- **Provide water** - An old bowl or plate can serve as a simple birdbath. Change the water every 2-3 days.
  - **Maintain native plants** - Plants typically found in your area offer seeds, berries, and nectar for the birds that are also native to your area. Trees provide space for birds to seek shelter. Native grasses offer seeds and nesting materials.
  - **Nesting boxes** - Scraps of wood can be used to create nesting boxes for birds.
- Be sure to take time to observe and enjoy the many amazing birds you attract to your yard.