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# RECORD

## NEST SWEET NEST DATA SHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** On the back of this page, draw a picture of the supplies you gathered for your nest. Then draw a picture of the completed nest.

### Conclusion

1. Was it easy or hard to build a nest using only a bill? Why?

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2. How did you communicate since you could not use your voice?

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3. How does your nest differ from that of a real bird's nest?

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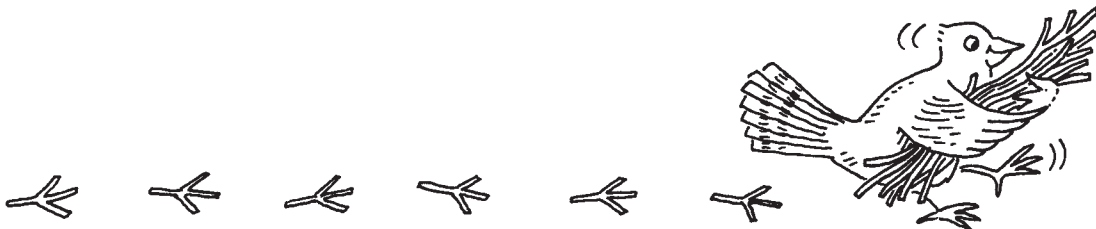
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4. Do you think your nest would survive the wind and the rain? Explain.

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# INVESTIGATE

## NEST SWEET NEST

### BACKGROUND

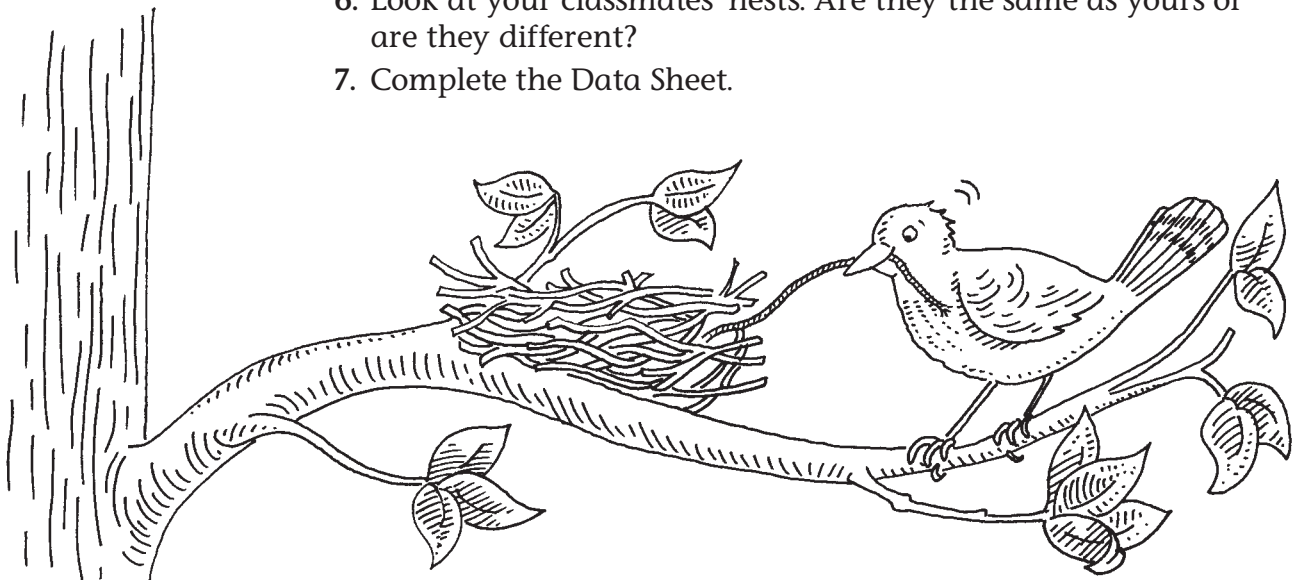
Birds need to build nests in order to make homes for their young. Different kinds of birds build different types of nests. Each nest may be made of different materials, but all are designed to keep eggs and babies hidden and safe from enemies. Birds' nests must be able to accommodate several eggs at one time that eventually hatch into birds. And the most important tool that all birds use is their bill. In this investigation, you will experience building a nest almost as a bird does.

#### MATERIALS

- nest supplies (e.g., fabric scraps, pieces of string and yarn, shoelaces, construction paper scraps, straw or raffia, small sticks, newspaper)
- salad tongs
- chopsticks
- hot dog tongs
- tweezers

### DIRECTIONS

1. Work with a partner.
2. Scatter your nest supplies around the classroom. Choose one of the following tools to gather your materials and build your nest: salad tongs, chopsticks, hot dog tongs, or tweezers. This tool will be your "bill."
3. Decide with your partner where to build your nest. Take turns using your bill (tool) to carry nest supplies to that spot. You may not talk aloud to your partner, but you can use body language to communicate.
4. Use your bill and the materials you collected to build a nest that is big enough for you or your partner to sit in. Shape the nest into a circle and build up the sides as tall as your hands are from your palm to your fingertips.
5. Take turns sitting inside your nest and see if it stays together.
6. Look at your classmates' nests. Are they the same as yours or are they different?
7. Complete the Data Sheet.





# EXPLORE

**Directions:** Research and write about one of the following topics.

- ☐ Compare the nests of three different-sized birds. Write about the size of each bird's egg. Include how many eggs each bird normally lays at one time.
- ☐ How do birds know how to build their nests and what materials to use? (Use the word *instinct* in your answer.)
- ☐ Find out what types of birds live near you. Write about and draw pictures of at least five birds' nests and eggs.
- ☐ Find out about the nests of two land birds, two water birds, and two birds that nest high in trees or cliffs. Compare the structure of the nests and the materials used to build them.

