

**AUTHOR:**

Irene Kelly

This book describes a variety of nests and other interesting places that birds lay their eggs.

Ages: 4 to 8 years**Interest Level:**

PreK to 3rd grade

ATOS Reading Level:

4.8

Lexile: 930L**ISBN:** 9780823421022**Copyright:** 2009

Even an Ostrich Needs a Nest

What does it take to build a bird's nest?

Topics: measurement, comparing, counting

Math Connections: Use *Even an Ostrich Needs a Nest* to talk with children about comparing sizes of birds and their nests using words like bigger, smaller, heavier, and lighter. Discuss the different colors and features of the birds; ask why that might be. Go to a local park or your backyard and look for birds' nests. Guess what type of bird made the nest. Was it a big bird? A tiny bird? Gather natural materials to make a nest. Where would the nest be found? In a tree, on the ground, on a building? How would it stay in place? How much weight do you think the nest will hold? Test it with different sized objects (rocks, balls, toys etc.) If the nest doesn't hold the weight you expected, try again. Help your child be persistent by encouraging them to rebuild the nest until it holds an object.

Extension Questions:

1. What materials do you think could be used to build a nest.
2. Bald eagle nests can weigh as much as two tons. How much could three bald eagle nests weigh altogether?
3. As you are reading the book ask the child if the nest you are reading about is a small or large nest. Ask: Why do you think so?
4. Classify birds by the nests they build: cup-shaped nests, birds that do not build nests, birds that make their nests in a hole, and birds that make their nests with mud.

Early Math Project Resources:

[Nest Making](#) (English)

[Hacer un Nido](#) (Spanish)

Online Resources:

For more animal facts and comparisons go to [National Geographic Kids](#) There are a variety of family resources on this site that may be helpful for parents and interesting for children.

[Teacher's Guide](#) at Mackin.com

Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts	balance, circle, eight-foot, every, feet, fifty, flat, four, gigantic, more than, nine, one, one hundred, pair, pattern, shallow, single, six thousand, small, tall, ten, thirteen, tons, top, twenty-four, two, vertical, wide
Vocabulary for Extending Math Concepts	classification, comparison, counting, measurement, weight
Vocabulary for Reading Comprehension	abandoned, bower, cacti dazzle, dollar, hatchling, haystack, hollow, notches, nudged, peek, pointy, rolling, south, sturdy, talons, toasty, underside, webbed

Spanish Title: Not available

Related Books: *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins; *Even an Octopus Needs a Home* by Irene Kelly

Find this book at your local library: http://www.worldcat.org/title/even-an-ostrich-needs-a-nest-where-birds-begin/oclc/184925024&referer=brief_results

Age Level	Related Preschool Foundations and CA State Standards
Infant/Toddler	Problem Solving: The developing ability to engage in a purposeful effort to reach a goal or figure out how something works.
Preschool/TK	Algebra and Function: 1.1 Sort and classify objects by one or more attributes, into two or more groups, with increasing accuracy.
Kindergarten	Measurement and Data: K.MD.1 Describe and compare measurable attributes.
Grade 1	Measurement and Data: 1.MD.1 Measure lengths indirectly and by iterating length units.
Grade 2	Measurement and Data: 2.MD.1 Measure and estimate lengths in standard units.
Grade 3	Not applicable

