MAKE YOUR OWN

Hummingbird Feeder

ABOUT THE ACTIVITY
In this activity you will use materials you can find around the house – or at a local hardware or craft store – to make your very own hummingbird feeder.

MATERIALS
- Recycled wine bottle—remove label
- Several bright-colored puffy paints
- Cork stopper-sipper
- Decorative wire—12 gauge
- Disposable table covering

STEP 1:
Prepare a disposable table covering under your project. Stand the bottle nose down, and begin to paint any design you choose. Set aside to dry.

STEP 2:
Wrap the wire twice around the nose of the bottle. Then, move the wire up to the middle of the bottle and make two wraps. Then thread your end through the wraps and then make a loop at the top, then go back down the other side and back to the wraps and tie the wire off.

STEP 3:
Fill the bottle with homemade nectar (recipe on pg. 6). Close with the stopper and hang in a semi-shaded area near bright colored flowers.

Source: https://www.thoughtco.com/fascinating-facts-about-butterflies-1968171
HOW TO

Make Nectar

HOW TO ATTRACT HUMMERS

There are many ways to attract hummingbirds to your location. One of the ways is to plant native flowers and plants. Another way is to set up feeders with a sugary nectar to provide them a food source. Try to position your feeders away from potential predators such as snakes, raccoons, and even praying mantises. Position feeders at least 15 feet away from windows to keep hummers from flying into them. Keep them away from the hot afternoon sun to keep the feeder contents from fermenting and getting spoiled. If you plan on having more than one feeder in your yard, keep them out of sight from each other since hummingbirds are territorial.

ACTIVITY STEPS

• Bring 1 cup of water to boil
• Add 1/4 cup of white granulated sugar
• Stir until dissolved
• Boil this mixture for 2 minutes (this will help keep the nectar from spoiling too quickly)
• Set aside to cool
• Pour into a clean hummingbird feeder.

*For larger recipes add 4 parts of water to 1 part of sugar.

Nectar can be stored for up to two weeks in the fridge.

DO’S and DON’TS

Do not use honey, as this can cause an infection to the hummers and make them sick. Don’t use artificial sweeteners, since they have no nutritional value. Avoid red dyes most are unhealthy. Clean your feeder once a week. Dispose of unused nectar.

WATER

Birds love moving water and need a year-round source of fresh water. The ideal depth is 1 to 3 inches for both drinking and bathing. A sloped, shallow water source with rocks and a rough surface to grip onto works best. Be sure to empty and refill this daily.