

## FOR THE BIRDS

AN INSTANT MEETING FOR SPARKS  
FROM THE BC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

### Meeting Plan

- 10 min: Gathering: Bird-themed Colouring
- 5 min: Spark Opening
- 5-10 min: Bird Story
- 10 min: Bluebird, Bluebird Song and Game
- 10 min: Eagle and Chicks (Chinese Game)
- 10-15 min: Pinecone Birdfeeder
- if time: Bird Songs
- 5 min: Spark Closing

*60 minute meeting. Approximate activity times shown.*

### Program Connections

**Exploring and Experimenting Keeper**  
(learn about animals)

**Going Outside Keeper**  
(Additional activity: bird feeder)

**Being Healthy Keeper**  
(Move to the Beat active game)

**The World Around Me Keeper** (game from another country)

**Going Camping Keeper**  
(Campfire songs)

### Meeting Supplies

- printed colouring sheets
- pencils, crayons, markers
- bird-themed story
- open pinecones
- string
- lard or peanut butter (pay attention to allergies!)
- birdseed

## Gathering: Bird-Themed Colouring

### Directions

Find colouring sheets online:

<https://www.google.ca/search?q=bird+coloring&tbm=isch>

Tie in to the theme with a colouring sheet of your provincial bird

<https://www.google.ca/search?q=provincial+bird+colouring+pages&tbm=isch>

### Supplies

- printed colouring sheets
- pencils, crayons, markers

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## Bird Story

Find a bird-themed story online or at your local library.

<https://www.google.ca/#q=bird+day+stories+for+kids>

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## Bluebird, Bluebird Song and Game

From the **Rainbow Revelry Toolkit – Blue Appendix** (BC Girl Guides).

### Directions

1. One girl is chosen to be the bluebird.
2. The rest of the girls join hands in a circle and hold their hands high to form “windows” between them.
3. The bluebird starts the song in the middle of the circle, then flies in and out the windows of the circle during the first part of the song.
4. For the second part of the song, if you have a large group, the bluebird taps three girls from the circle to join her, or, for a smaller group, she taps just one girl (this depends on how many times you want to repeat the song).
5. The bluebirds then all join hands and start the game again, repeating until there are only two girls left to form a window.

Hear a sample of this song online: <http://youtu.be/MibnLIXnLcE>

**Bluebird, bluebird through my window,  
Bluebird, bluebird through my window,  
Bluebird, bluebird through my window,  
Oh, Johnny, aren't you tired?**

**Find a friend and tap her on the shoulder,  
Find a friend and tap her on the shoulder,  
Find a friend and tap her on the shoulder,  
Oh, Johnny, aren't you tired?**

## Eagle and Chicks (Chinese Game)

This is a traditional Chinese game. You will need at least 5 girls to play this game.

### Directions

1. One girl is the Eagle and another girl is the Mother Hen. The rest of the girls are chicks.
2. The chicks form a line behind the Mother Hen. Each chick holds on to the waist or shoulders of the girl in front of her (so everyone in the line is connected, with the Mother Hen at the front).
3. The Eagle then tries to tag one of the chicks, while the Mother Hen tries to protect her chicks. The chicks run to avoid being tagged by the Eagle, and can leave the line (for a short time) to avoid the Eagle.
4. The Eagle must not touch the Mother Hen. If the Eagle touches the Mother Hen, the game starts over.
5. When the Eagle tags a chick, the two girls switch places, with the tagged girl as the new Eagle.

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## Pinecone Birdfeeder

### Directions

1. Tie a piece of string onto a pinecone.
2. Mix the lard/peanut butter with the birdseed.
3. Slather the birdseed mixture onto the pinecone.
4. Roll the pinecone in additional birdseed.
5. Hang the birdfeeder outside for the birds!

### Supplies

- open pinecones
- string
- lard or peanut butter (pay attention to allergies!)
- birdseed

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## Bird Songs

Sing any bird-themed songs. Some ideas follow.

### My Pigeon House

Source: *Sing a Song with Sparks and Brownies*; probably public domain. Hear the tune online at: <http://guidingjewels.ca/resources/songs/620-song-my-pigeon-house>

**My pigeon house  
I open wide  
As I set all my pigeons free.**

**They fly about  
On ev'ry side  
And they perch on the tallest tree.**

**But then they return  
From their merry, merry flight;  
They close their eyes and they say, "Good night."**

**Coo-coo, coo-coo,  
Coo-coo, Coo-coo,  
Coo-coo, Coo-coo, Coo-coo.**

### **The Cuckoo**

Source: *Jubilee Songbook*. Public Domain. Hear the tune online at:  
<http://guidingjewels.ca/resources/songs/532-song-the-cuckoo>

#### **3 Part round**

**'Twas on a summer's evening,  
I walked the forest through  
When suddenly I heard it,  
A sweet and low cuckoo**

**Cuckoo, cuckoo,  
Cuckoo, cuckoo cuckoo  
Cuckoo, cuckoo,  
Cuckoo, cuckoo cuckoo**

**Mister Moon, Mister Moon you're out too soon,  
The sun is still in the sky.  
Go back to bed and cover up your head  
Wait 'till the night draws nigh.**

### **Alouette**

Source: *Our Chalet Songbook II*. French Canadian Song. Assume Public Domain. Hear the tune online at: <http://guidingjewels.ca/resources/songs/582-song-alouette>

**Alouette gentille, Alouette,  
Alouette, Je te plumerai.**

**Je te plumerai la tête,  
Je te plumerai la tête.  
Et la tête, et la tête**

**Alouette, Alouette.  
Aah! - - -  
Alouette gentille, Alouette,  
Alouette, Je te plumerai.**

Repeat the entire song, replacing "la tête" with the following:

1. Le bec
2. Les yeux
3. Le cou
4. Le dos
5. les ailes
6. Les pattes
7. Le queue