

HUMMUS HABITATS



Happy May!

Many bird species breed in spring, making May a special month for building nests and laying eggs.

Consider making your very own nest called a Hummus Habitat while learning about these cozy and protective homes.

INGREDIENTS

15oz can of garbanzo beans, drained	¼ cup olive oil
2 Tbsp lemon juice	½ tsp garlic powder
½ tsp salt (adjust to taste)	½ tsp cumin
2-3 Tbsp water (for smoothness)	Pretzel sticks
Tiny mozzarella balls	Basil leaves

STEPS

- 1. Drain and rinse your garbanzo beans, then add them to a large bowl.**
- 2. Using a fork, mash the garbanzo beans until they look like oatmeal.**
- 3. Now it's time to add your seasonings! Place the garlic powder and cumin in your garbanzo bean mixture.**
- 4. Once that is incorporated it is time to add olive oil and lemon juice. Make sure you stir everything well.**
- 5. Now, add cold water... a little at time, until it's the consistency of peanut butter.**

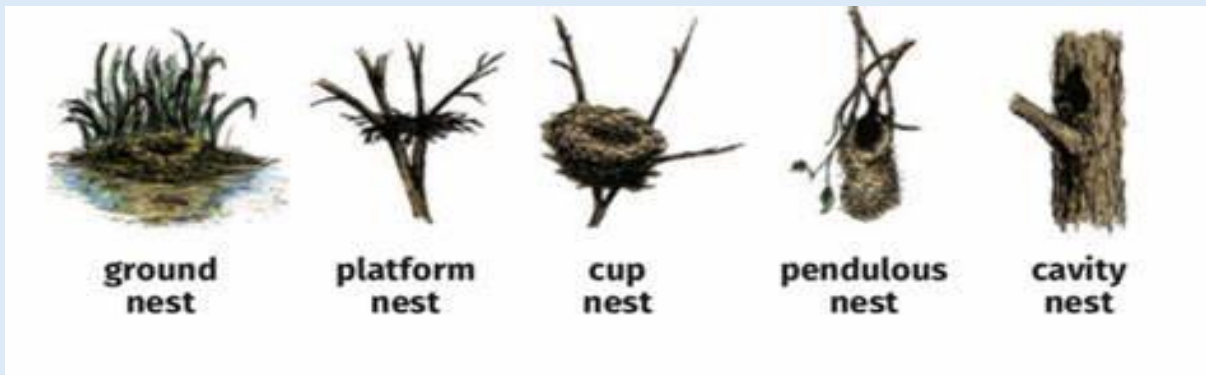
LET'S ASSEMBLE!

- 1. First, get a plate out. This will be the base for your HUMMUS HABITAT.**
- 2. Place a large spoonful of hummus onto your plate.**
- 3. Next, carefully stack your pretzel sticks around the outside of the hummus to resemble a nest.**
- 4. Now, it's time for basil leaves. Arrange the leaves inside the nest.**
- 5. Add your eggs! Place the tiny mozzarella balls in the center of the nest.**

***Nests look different! Based on the material available and the wildlife that is creating their habitat. Your nest can be uniquely yours. Have fun!**



DIFFERENT TYPES OF NESTS



GROUND NEST: An underground habitat! Some birds like puffins dig tunnels straight into the ground to create a cozy, hidden home.

PLATFORM NEST: A large, flat, sturdy platform built of sticks high up in trees or on cliffs. Bald Eagles make this kind of nest.

CUP NEST: This is the most common nest. Shaped like a cozy bowl to hold eggs. Usually made of twigs, grass and mud. Robins make this kind of nest AND so did you!

PENDULOUS NEST: Sometimes called a pendant nest. This looks like a woven bag that hangs from tree branches. Orioles make this kind of nest.

CAVITY NEST: This is a nest built inside a safe, hollowed-out space, usually inside a tree trunk. Woodpeckers love this kind of nest!

MORE FUN FACTS ABOUT BIRD NESTS!

1. Hummingbirds use sticky spiderwebs to hold their delicate nests together.
2. Bald Eagles build huge nests. The biggest one weighed 4,000 pounds!
3. Some birds put shed snakeskin in their nests to scare away predators.
4. Flamingos build 12-inch-tall mud nests that look like tiny volcanoes.
5. Some birds build nests that they return to year after year, adding materials each time.

Opportunities for Expanded Learning

Click [HERE](#) to learn about how birds build nests!

Click [HERE](#) to make another kind of bird nest with found materials!

Click [HERE](#) for some fun bird nest challenges!

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