

Flourishing; At Home in God

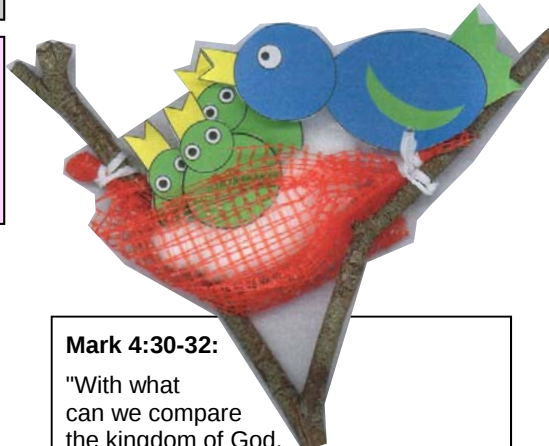
Date: 14th June, 2009 Reading: Mark 4: 30-32
Date: 23rd August, 2009 Reading: Psalm 84

Year A: Also use for:
Matthew 10: 24-39: sparrows
Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52: birds
nesting in the mustard tree

Birds nesting in the Mustard Tree

You will need:

- plastic mesh vegetable bag
- light coloured cardboard
- cotton wool balls
- goggle eyes
- shape templates (see below)
- glue sticks
- twist ties
- hole punch
- Optional:** forked stick, paper leaves

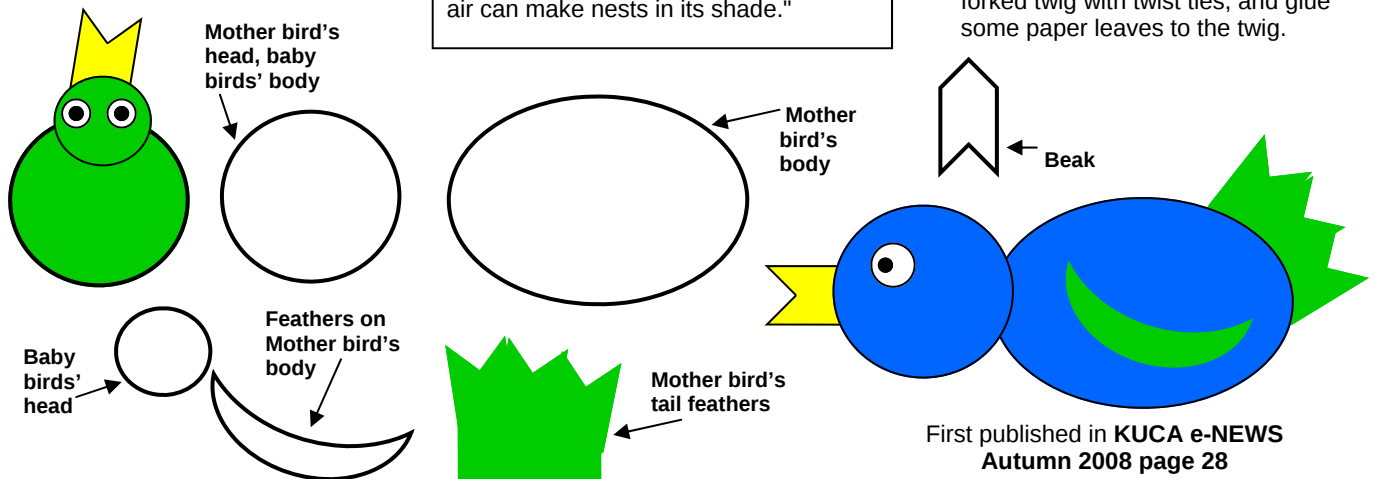


Mark 4:30-32:

"With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

What to do:

- ♦ Cut a rectangle approx 10cm X 5cm from a plastic mesh bag and fold it in half to make the bird's nest.
- ♦ Twist a wire tie around each end.
- ♦ Tease out a cotton wool ball and 'line' the nest with it.
- ♦ Trace around the circles and other shapes onto coloured cardboard. Cut enough for a mother bird and several baby birds.
- ♦ Glue them together as shown and glue eyes on.
- ♦ Let them dry.
- ♦ Punch a hole at the bottom of the mother bird and attach her to one end of the nest with a twist tie.
- ♦ Attach the baby birds to the cotton wool with a dab of glue.
- ♦ **Optional:** Attach the nest to a forked twig with twist ties, and glue some paper leaves to the twig.



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Birds in Nests

(Mark 4: 30-32; Psalm 84)

You will need:

- small patty pans
- cooking chocolate
- shredded wheat cereal pieces
- 2 pompoms per child (one smaller)
- small craft eyes
- cardboard scraps for beaks
- glue, scissors
- bowl, saucepan, spoon for making chocolate



What to do:

To make nests:

- ♦ Melt chocolate over a low heat.
- ♦ Add crushed shredded wheat cereal until it looks the right consistency for a nest.
- ♦ Line each patty pan with the mixture.
- ♦ Allow to set.

To make birds:

- ♦ Glue smaller pompom on top of larger one.
- ♦ Glue eyes and beak in place.
- ♦ When nests are cool, put bird in nest.



August 23, 2009:

At home in God:

Psalm 84: v3:

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

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