Make Pine Cone Bird Feeders with the Kids This Spring

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How To Make Pine Cone Bird Feeders:

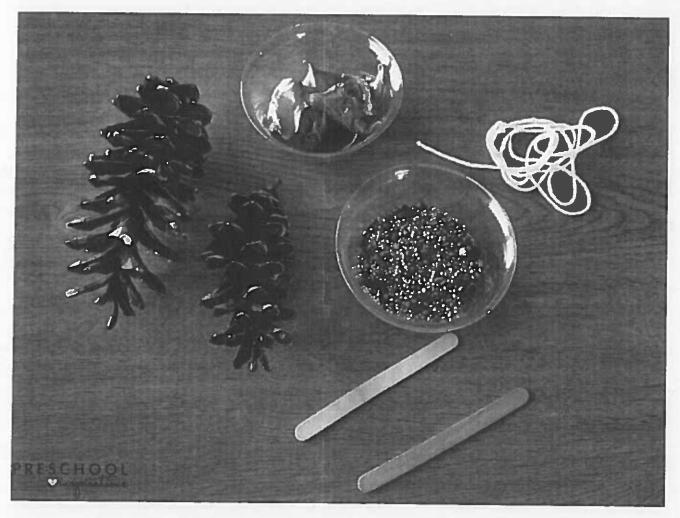
These easy-to-make bird feeders are not only fun to make but they are inexpensive too.

Supplies:

- Pine Cones
- Peanut Butter
- Small Bowls
- Popsicle Stick
- Paper Plate or Tray
- Bird Seed
- Twine or String
- Scissors

You can usually find all of the supplies that you need at your local dollar store. If you live in an area where you can't find pine cones on trees, you can <u>order them from Amazon</u>.

*If your child, or someone else in your family, has a peanut allergy feel free to use another nut butter, sun butter (made from sunflower seed), or you can use suet (a kind of animal fat). Any of these options are fine for birds and serve the purpose of providing a fat rich resource to get them through the winter.



To prepare for this activity, scoop some peanut butter from the jar and put it into the small bowls. I usually have one bowl for every two or three students to share.

Next, pour some bird seed into the small bowls. Then, give each student a paper plate or plastic tray. If you don't have plates or trays, I recommend that you do this activity outside.

Before beginning this activity, you may also want to cut the twine or string into pieces that are about 8 inches long for each student.

Directions:

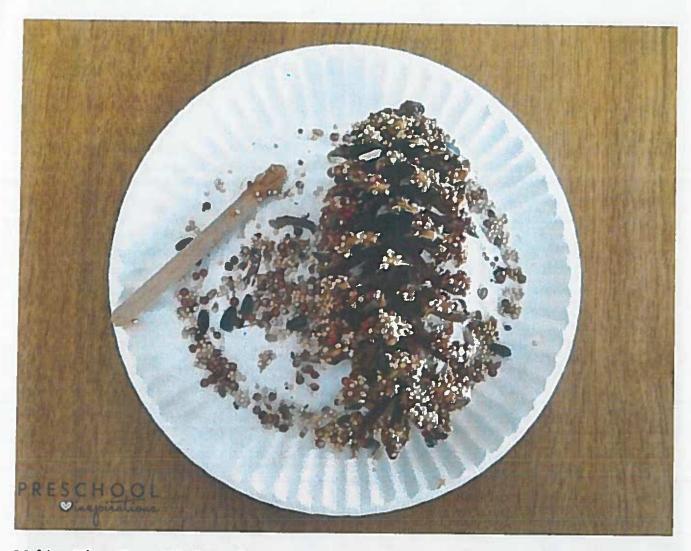
To begin making the pine cone bird feeders, your students will place their pine cone onto their paper plate or plastic tray and spread peanut butter on it. I have found that it is easiest for young children to spread the peanut butter with a popsicle stick.



Next, the children will sprinkle the bird seed on the pine cone so it sticks to the peanut butter.



Your students can then tie the twine or string around the top of the pine cone and hang them from a tree or hook.



Making **Pine Cone Bird Feeders** is always one of <u>our favorite activities</u> during the school year. My students love to hang them outside our classroom window and watch all the different birds that come to visit.

