

BUILD-A-NEST

The nesting period for ducks begins in the spring of each year. After a hen selects a nesting site, she then needs to build her nest. The nest needs to have a place for the eggs (a depression) and sides to keep the eggs safe; this is called a nest bowl. After this process is complete the hen can begin laying her eggs!



Do you think you could build your own nest? Do you think you could build it like a duck? Unlike humans, ducks don't have hands. They can only use their bills and webbed feet to build their nests. For this activity you will have to turn your hands into duck parts! Let's give it a try!

**You will need shredded basket filler or shredded paper.
(Optional: clock or timer for this activity)**



1. Grab a handful of shredded paper, ball it up, and set it in front of you.



2. Take your right hand and fold it in half (like a sock puppet). This will be your duck bill.



3. Take your left hand and put up 3 fingers and spread them out. This will be your webbed foot.



4. Now build your nest!

(Remember to make your nest shaped like a bowl and to only use your bill and webbed foot!)



Optional: give yourself 2 minutes to build a nest, either by setting a timer or having someone time you.