



Birds & Eggs

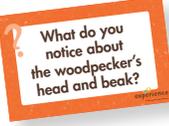
WEEK 1 IN THE NEST

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 1 Nest Building <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning SED 4 Social Relationships</small>	Blocks Nature items Scrap paper Nonfiction books (optional)	 	Set out blocks, nature items, scrap paper and other materials that can be used to build a nest. Invite children to visit the block area throughout the day and add items to the group “nest.” If desired, set out nonfiction books about nests or print off photos of nests to display.
LESSON 2 Egg Hunt <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Toy eggs	 	Hide toy eggs outside. Fill them with small items, if desired. Encourage children to find the eggs or help hide them.
LESSON 3 Egg Hatching <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science CA 4 Drama</small>	Lamps Fabric Basket Toy eggs	 	Set out lamps, fabric, baskets and toy eggs filled with small toy animals. Invite children to build nests and “lay” the eggs in them. Encourage them to take care of the eggs throughout the day and make sure they are warm and cozy under the lamps.
LESSON 4 Bird Food <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry SCI 4 Technology</small>	Bin of bird seed Funnels Paper cups with holes in bottom	 	Set out a bin with bird seed. Add different sized funnels and paper cups with big and small holes at the bottom. Encourage children to explore pouring bird seed through different objects.
LESSON 5 Birds in Flight <small>SCI 3 Physical Science SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Fan Bucket Lightweight objects: paper, feathers, cotton balls, crayons	 	Set out a fan and a bucket full of different lightweight objects. Encourage children to experiment with placing each item close to the fan and discovering if it flies.

WEEK 2 BIRD PARTS

LESSON 6 Digging for Food <small>SCI 4 Technology SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Small items: pebbles, blocks, sticks, nuts, bolts Bin of sand or dirt Digging tools: Tongs, tweezers, spoons	 	Bury small items in a bin of sand or dirt. Set out tongs, tweezers and spoons. Invite children to pretend to be birds digging for food and to explore the different tools as if they were bird beaks.
LESSON 7 Building Bird Bodies <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning SED 1 Self-Awareness</small>	Bird photos Tape Scissors Blocks	 	Print photos of birds, cut them into thirds then tape each piece to blocks. Encourage children to arrange, stack or build with the bird blocks.
LESSON 8 Kite Flying <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry</small>	Paper Crayons/markers String	 	Set out all materials and invite children to decorate a kite. Help them tie a long piece of string to the bottom of their kites. Go outside and explore flying kites in the wind or running with the kites to fly in the air.
LESSON 9 Bird Tracks <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Sticks/twigs Crayons Pipecleaners Golf tees Playdough	 	Set out the listed materials/tools to make imprints in playdough. Invite children to explore making bird tracks or other animal tracks.
LESSON 10 Tails <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning CA 4 Drama</small>	Fabric pieces Yarn Ties	 	Set out a variety of materials for children to explore tying around their waists. Encourage children to pretend they are animals with tails.

WEEK 3 TREE BIRDS

STEAM STATION	YOUR SUPPLIES	BIG QUESTION AND INSPIRATION PHOTOS	TEACHER TIPS
LESSON 11 Bluebird House <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning CA 3 Visual Arts</small>	Boxes Markers Glue Sequins Pompoms Beans	 	Set out a variety of small boxes. Invite children to choose one to create a birdhouse. Provide other materials and art tools so they can decorate the birdhouses as desired.
LESSON 12 Pecking Marks <small>MR 5 Patterns PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Playdough Toothpicks Sticks/twigs Pencils	 	Set out the listed supplies. Invite children to explore pecking different designs or patterns into the playdough.
LESSON 13 High Nests <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Bowls Plates Toy eggs Paper shreds Nature items Blocks	 	In the block area, set out different-sized bowls and plates and materials to make nests. Invite children to build tall structures with blocks then try to balance the “nests” on top.
LESSON 14 Colorful Flowers <small>MR 7 Logic & Reasoning CA 3 Visual Arts</small>	Pipecleaners Floral foam or playdough Buttons Beads	 	Stick pipecleaners into floral foam or playdough. Set out small items with holes and encourage children to make a colorful flower for a hummingbird.
LESSON 15 Bird Feeders <small>SCI 4 Technology SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science</small>	Cardboard tubes Peanut butter Bird seed Spatula Tray Spoons or scoops Plates Hole punch Scissors Twine	 	Set out the listed supplies. Invite children to create a birdfeeder by punching two holes opposite each other on one end of the tube, tying a piece of twine to both holes in a loop. Use peanut butter to stick bird seed to the outside of each tube.

WEEK 4 EXOTIC BIRDS

LESSON 16 Sink or Float Eggs <small>SCI 1 Investigation & Inquiry PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Toy eggs Bin of water Small items: pebbles, blocks, sticks, nuts, bolts	 	Place items of varying weights in the toy eggs. Set out a bin of water for children to discover which eggs sink and which ones float.
LESSON 17 Frozen Penguin Eggs <small>SCI 3 Physical Science CA 4 Drama</small>	Water balloons Bird figurines Water Tray Scissors	 	Fill balloons with water, insert a bird figurine then place in the freezer. Once frozen, cut the balloons and place the frozen “penguin eggs” on a tray or inside a bin. Encourage children to explore the baby penguin eggs.
LESSON 18 Blue Crane Nest <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science CA 4 Drama</small>	Blocks Crayons Large pieces of paper	 	Invite children to gather items from outside to create a blue crane nest. Explain that the blue crane’s nest is a very simple platform structure made with grasses, reeds and small stones. Blue cranes usually lay two eggs at a time.
LESSON 19 Build a Tail <small>SCI 2 Natural & Earth Science PD 2 Fine Motor</small>	Blocks Crayons Large pieces of paper	 	Set out blocks, crayons and large pieces of paper. Invite children to arrange the blocks in a beautiful peacock tail design on the paper. Trace around the blocks with various colors. Remove the blocks and color in or draw designs in each outline.
LESSON 20 Birdwatcher <small>SCI 4 Technology CA 4 Drama</small>	Bird photos Toy cameras Binoculars Paper Crayons Tape	 	Tape the photos to the wall. Set out toy cameras, binoculars, paper and crayons. Invite children to pretend to be birdwatchers and find photos of birds. Encourage them to sketch drawings of birds.

Set-Up Directions

These open-ended STEAM stations invite children to investigate, problem-solve and create.

- Hang the Big Question and Inspiration Photos on the wall next to the place you set up the investigation.
- Use the labels to identify and organize materials children will use (and clean up) as they explore STEAM stations.

ROTATING YOUR STATIONS

- Introduce one new STEAM station daily. Leave that station set up all week. By the end of the week, children will have five stations to explore.



Bowls



STEAM stations integrate perfectly with the monthly Experience Preschool Curriculum kits for a comprehensive research-based early learning system. Learn more and start your research-based curriculum today.

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**Can you make
a safe nest?**



**Where is
the safest place
to hide an egg?**



**How does an
eggshell protect
the baby inside?**



**How many
different kinds of
seeds do you see?**



**Which objects
fly highest?**



**What kinds
of food do birds
find in the forest?
In the city?**



**Which type
of bird is
your favorite?**



**How is a kite
like a bird?**



**Where might
you see
bird tracks?**



**Why do you
think some animals
have tails?**



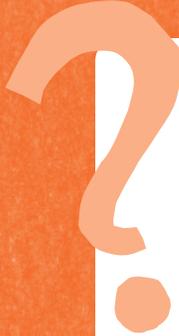
**How can
a birdhouse
protect birds?**



**What do you
notice about
the woodpecker's
head and beak?**



**Why do you
think birds nest
in trees?**



**Why do
hummingbirds like
colorful flowers?**



**What tools
can you use
to make a feeder?**



**What is inside
a toy egg that
makes it float?**



**How do penguins
keep their
babies warm?**



**What other birds
look like
a blue crane?**



**How many
colors are in
a peacock feather?**



**Who in your
family would be a
good birdwatcher?**

TYPES OF BIRD NESTS



Platform



Cup



Burrow



Cavity



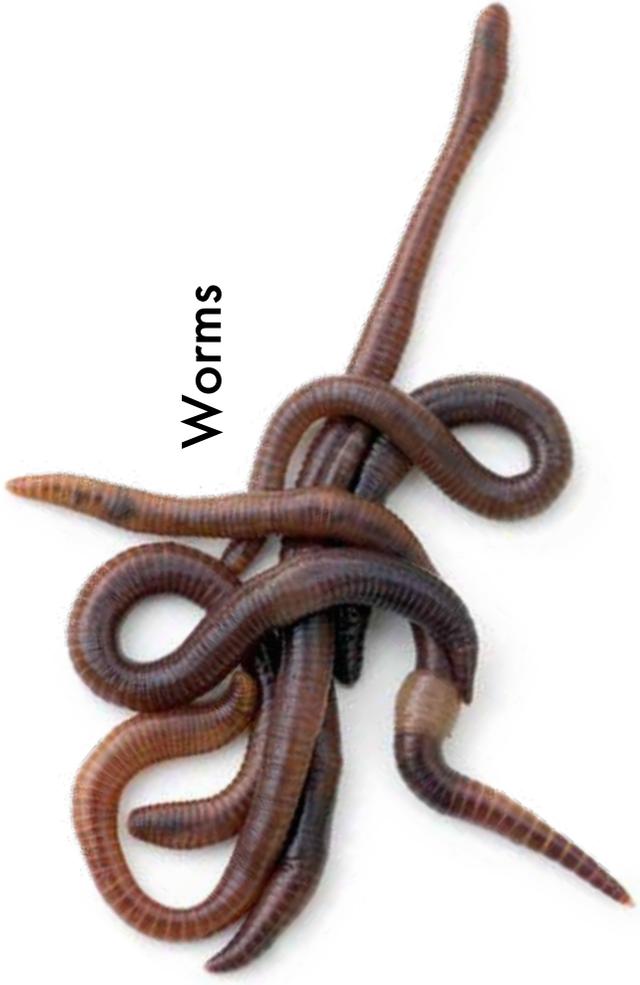
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Bird Foods



Worms



Insects



Seeds



Fruit





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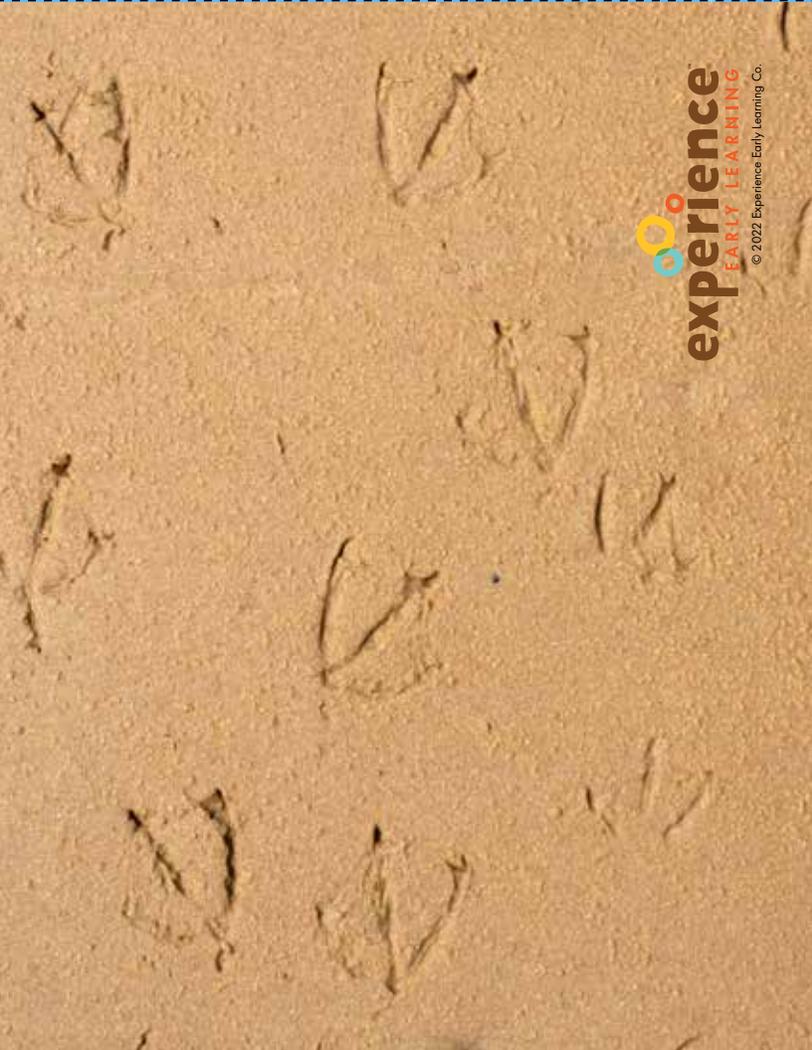
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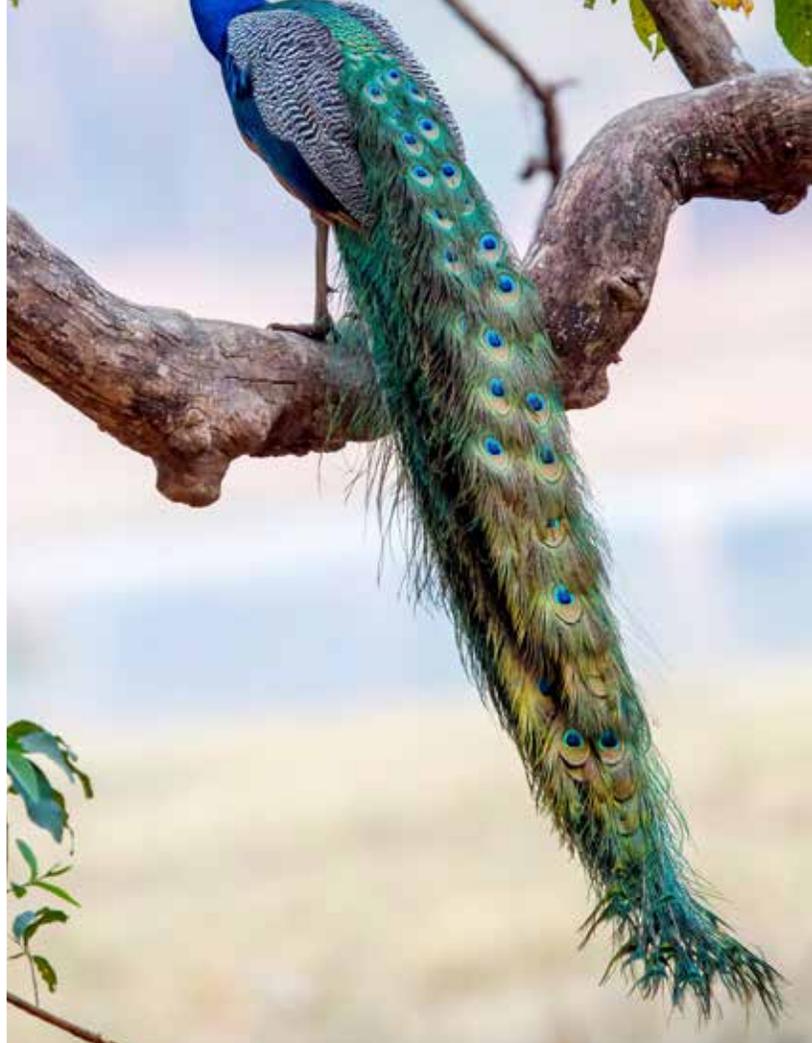

















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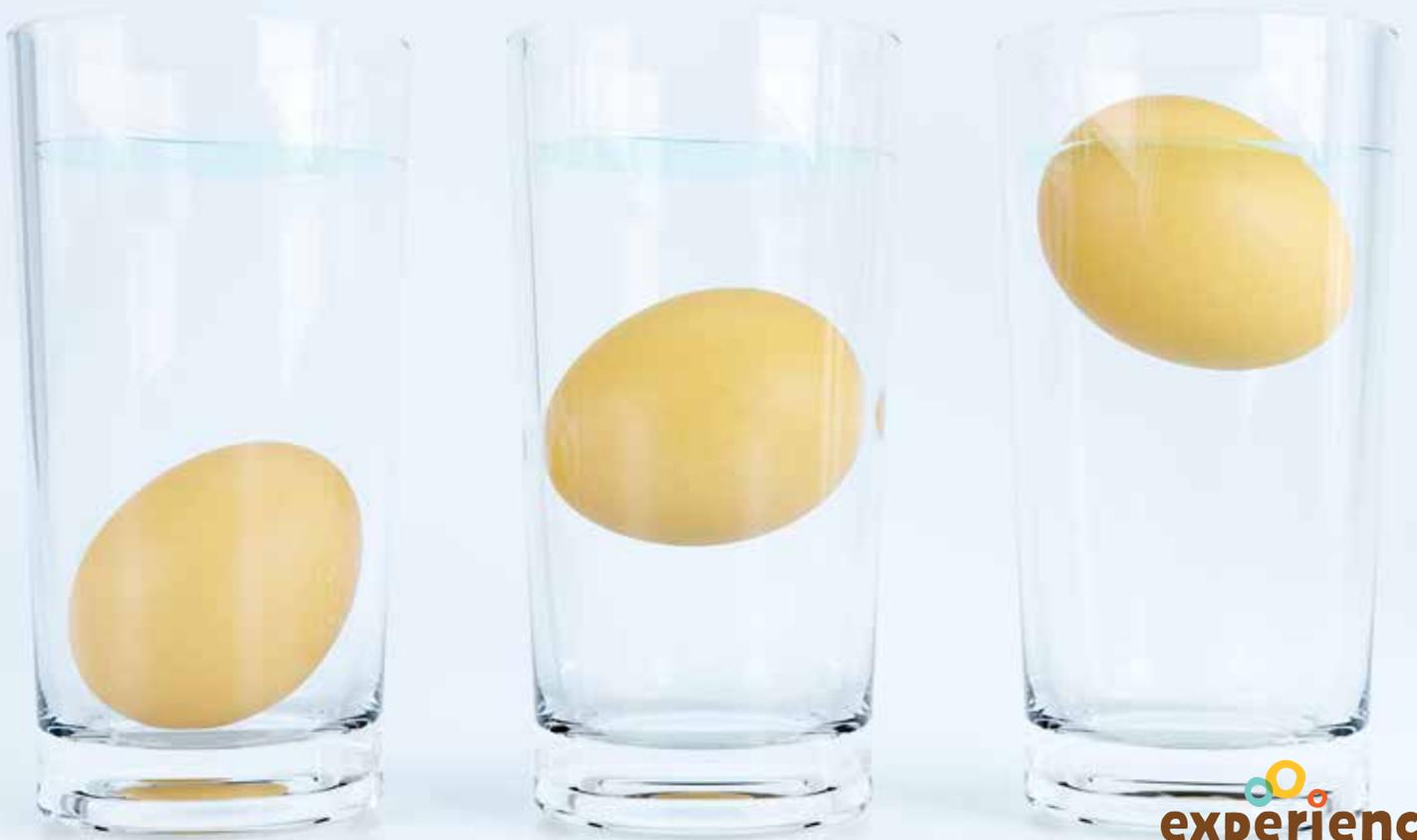

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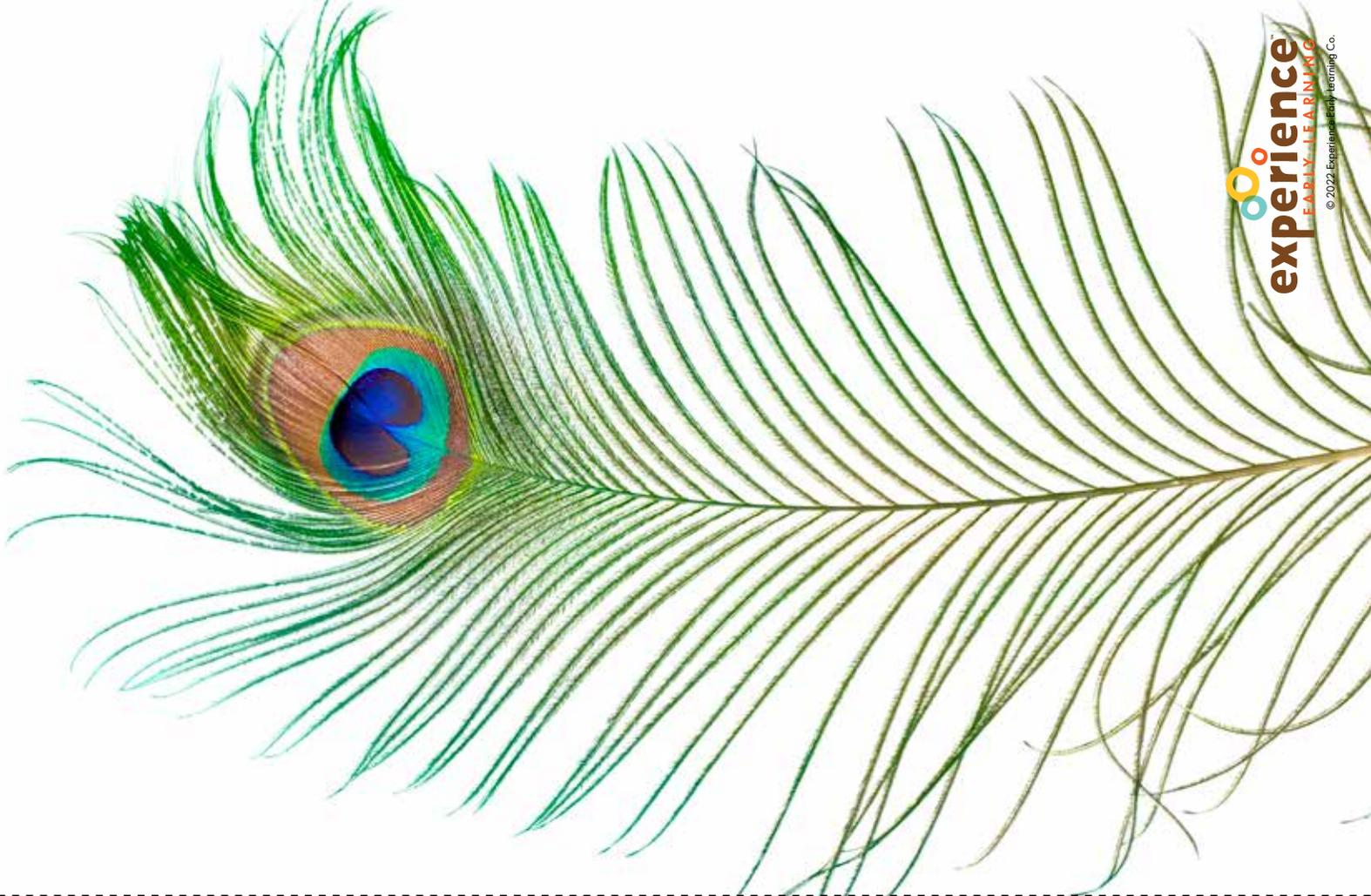

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Blocks



Nature Items



Paper



Books



Toy Eggs



Lamps



Fabric



Baskets



Bins



Bird Seed



Funnels



Paper Cups



Buckets



Lightweight Objects



Small Items



Sand



Dirt



Digging Tools



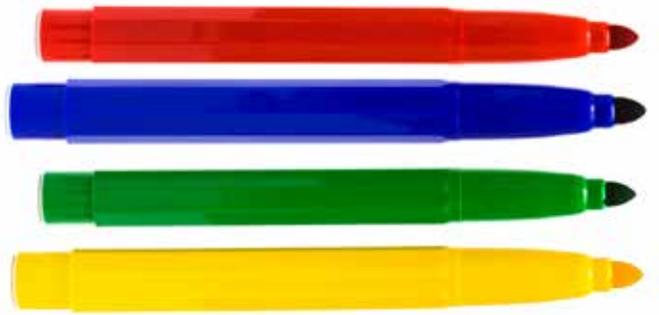
Tape



Scissors



Crayons



Markers



String



Sticks/Twigs



Pipecleaners



Golf Tees



Yarn



Ties



Boxes



Glue



Sequins



Pompoms



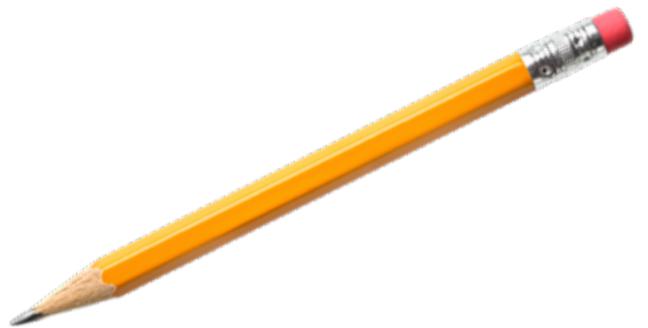
Beans



Playdough



Toothpicks



Pencils



Bowls



Plates



Paper Shreds



Floral Foam



Buttons



Beads



Cardboard Tubes



Peanut Butter



Spoons



Spatula



Scoops



Trays



Hole Punches



Twine



Water



Balloons



Bird Figurines



Toy Cameras



Binoculars