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# Mama Built A Little Nest



## Synopsis

A delightful exploration of the incredibly variety of nests birds build for their babies, illustrated by a Caldecott Honoree. Mama built a little nest inside a sturdy trunk. She used her beak to tap-tap-tap the perfect place to bunk. There are so many different kinds of birds and those birds build so many different kinds of nests to keep their babies cozy. With playful, bouncy rhyme, Jennifer Ward explores nests large and small, silky and cottony, muddy and twiggy and all the birds that call them home!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD860L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Beach Lane Books (March 18, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442421169

ISBN-13: 978-1442421165

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #78,142 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Education & Reference > Science Studies > Earth Sciences](#) #66 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Education & Reference > Science Studies > Zoology](#) #198 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Animals > Birds](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: [Preschool - 3](#)

## Customer Reviews

With rhyming text, Jennifer Ward reveals the art of nest making and the diversity of nests - locations, materials, etc. Each two-page layout features one bird like the woodpecker, the cowbird, the wren. There is the rhyming text in a larger print, and then is also a caption, in smaller print, with more detailed, non-rhyming text about that particular bird's nest making. The illustrations by Steve Jenkins support the details described in the text. The author's note at the end is worthy of reading aloud to older students up front--because it reveals the main ideas in the text and the curiosity of the author (that spurred her research). This could easily be read aloud to preK-4th for specific purposes. In preK-1st grade it might be about exposure and as part of a science unit of study or a hands-on

literacy center exploring and describing nests. I'd read aloud just the rhyming text in the book and then go back (during that lesson or another) and read aloud the captions. In the older grades, this might be a jumping off point for doing further research on one particular bird during a particular unit of study. For example, in the book, the author describes the hummingbird making a "small cup-shaped nest" made of "spiderweb so the little nest will stretch as the chick grows." I wanted to know more and easily found information by searching hummingbird nests on-line. Also, if you are in a unit of study - I like how this text reveals the diversity of one aspect of birds - nests. I'd pair this with books like *Feathers: Not Just for Flying* by Melissa Stewart and *An Egg is Quiet* by Dianna Aston.

Another wonderful book by Jennifer Ward. The rhyming nature of all of her books make them a fun read. Hats off to her illustrator who does a fantastic job of interpreting the story action and making it come alive.

Nests are rather magical for children. Imagine a little home for birds. But how are they constructed? That's the mystery which this book explains in a rather ingenious way. On the left page is a story about the nest portrayed, and on the right page are more facts about the bird and type of nest. This combines fiction and non-fiction in an appealing way on a topic of interest to children. Did you know one kind of nest is built with spiders' webs so it can expand when needed? That's the kind of intriguing facts included in this colorful and informative book on nests. It's a great way to bring science into story time.

A beautifully written and illustrated book that is well suited to reading out loud. Not only is the book quite informative about birds and the different types of nests they build but the poetry flows in a pleasing way. Each page explores a different type of bird and a different type of nest with a short poem and a brief explanation of the type of nest. The information is intriguing, I had no idea there were so many different types of nests. I think my favorite was the hummingbird nest that is tiny, but built with spider webbing so the nest will stretch as the nestlings grow. Jenkin's illustrations are amazing as they always are, the details in the nests and birds made for great enjoyment on my part. A winner all the way around.

Any book illustrated by Steve Jenkins is going to catch my eye and this one is definitely another winner! I agree with School Library Journal's review that this is a perfect picture book. Jenkins'

beautiful, colorful illustrations of a variety of birds are full of detail. Jennifer Ward's simple poems describing how each bird builds a nest pair wonderfully with the brief but factual explanations of the nest-building process provided on each page. Each page has just enough on it--just enough illustration, just enough text--to educate without overwhelming. The book is geared toward children ages 4 - 8, but I am quite a bit past that and it definitely appeals to me. --Judy Houser, Librarian, Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy, Melbourne, Florida.

This book was on my daughters first grade reading list and it is a great find. Each page is about a different bird's nest with facts about the bird/nest. I only knew two or three of the facts and I enjoyed the book as much as my daughter did!

Length: 2:34 Mins

I teach 4-yr-olds. These days, we are advised to read more nonfiction books to our children. This is a lovely one - for the poetry, the illustrations, and the factual content. I learned a lot!

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