



# At-Home Storytimes

## Theme: Birds



### Finger Play

#### Five Little Blackbirds

Source: Pasadena Public Library blog

Five little blackbirds  
Sitting in a tree.  
One flew away!  
How many do you see?  
One, two, three, four

Four little blackbirds  
Sitting in a tree.  
One flew away!  
How many do you see?  
One two, three

(Countdown until  
No more little blackbirds  
Sitting in a tree)

Tip: For this finger play, start with holding up five fingers. While counting backwards, lower that finger. This is also a great opportunity to practice counting with your little one.

### Action Song

#### Little Birds

Source: Cape May County Library

Little birds, little birds,  
Jump up and down.  
Little birds, little birds,  
Don't make a sound!  
Little birds, little birds,  
Tip-toe to me.  
Little birds, little birds,  
Bend your knees!  
Little birds, little birds,  
Peep, peep, peep.  
Little birds, little birds,  
Sleep, sleep, sleep.  
Little birds, little birds,  
Fly to the leaves!  
Little birds, little birds,  
Sit down, please.

### Book Suggestions

Shake a Leg, Egg! by Kurt Cyrus  
Seagulls Soar by April Pulley Sayre  
Nest by Jorey Hurley  
Birds Make Nests by Michael Garland  
Little Quack's Bedtime by Lauren Thompson  
Grumpy Bird by Jeremy Tankard  
Hooray for Birds! by Lucy Cousins

\*For more bird books, check out our  
Animal - Birds section in picture books!

### **Possible questions to ask while reading:**

How is the bird feeling in the story?  
How many birds do we see on the page?  
Where does the bird live?  
Have you seen this bird before? Where?  
What do you think the bird eats?  
What color are the birds?

### **Possible questions while exploring outside:**

Where do you think we will find birds?  
Do you see anything a bird might use for their nest?  
How many birds do you see?  
Do you see anything a bird will eat?

# Activities at Home

## Bird Watching

Find a spot nearby where there will be lots of birds to see. This may be in your backyard, a nearby park, or a nearby body of water. If you have binoculars, use those to locate birds that may be further away or in trees. Look for the different types of birds, colors, and size of birds. If you don't have binoculars, they are very easy to make. Using toilet paper tubes or a paper towel tube cut in half, staple or tape them together. Decorating should be done before the tubes are connected together. Hole punch along the outside edge of the binoculars. Tie string to each hole, and now you have wearable binoculars perfect for bird watching!

## Painting with Feathers

### Supplies:

Various size feathers from a craft store  
Tempera Paint  
Paint brush  
Glue  
Construction paper

There are many different ways to paint with feathers. One way would be to put some drops of paint on the paper, and let the kids run different feathers through it. This is a great opportunity to ask if some feathers spread the paint better than others, and what happens when two different colors of paint mix together. Another way is to use the feathers as a stamp. Using a paint brush, apply paint on the feathers, and stamp them on the paper. The kids can see the different sizes and details of the feather. One last way is to mix glue and tempera paint together. First, place a feather on the paper, than paint over the feather with the glue paint mixture, attaching the feather to the paper. Can you find any other ways to paint with feathers?

