

Bird Watching

The male house wren has 40 different songs.

All you need for birdwatching is eyes. In many neighborhoods the key to actually seeing lots of different birds is finding ways to attract them to you.

First of course is to feed them. Putting out bird seed is sure to draw in a variety of visitors, even in the inner city.

To attract humming birds mix four parts water with one part sugar and purchase an inexpensive humming bird feeder to hang in a spot you can see.



Bird Putty is another great idea for attracting birds to your home or apartment building. We have a great recipe in our list of activities.

The sound of dripping water can draw birds from thousands of feet away. Drill a small hole in the lid of a liter soda bottle. Fill it with water and hang it upside down so that it drips into a bowl. If there are birds in your neighborhood this sound will bring them to your house.



Birds build nests. Attract them by putting out bits of yarn for them to line their nests. One good idea is to hang a pine cone from a tree and tuck 3" long bits of colored yarn into the cone.

Birds like to hide so plant some bushes around your home or apartment building.

To make bird watching more interesting check out books or dvds from the library. Many bird songs can be heard on the internet. Personally I like Bird Listening even more than bird watching. Most bird songs are composed of love-notes and pleasure-notes. They also scream and chirp...expressing either joy or fear, just like humans. Can you imagine singing because you are happy? God asks us to do this for him, to sing for joy. Birds do it all the time. This is one of the Bible lessons birds teach us...to trust God and sing for Joy. He means for us to find him. He does all he can to attract us to him.

God works very hard at attracting us. Is there something we can do to attract him? I think the verse in Isaiah 66:2 has the answer "But there is something I'm looking for: a person simple and plain, reverently responsive to what I say.

It has always been interesting to me that God has commanded us to "Look at the Birds". Why not bugs or fish or frogs. I think probably it is because birds are most expressive of their joy and delight in being alive. They have learned to be happy. This is a lesson well worth sharing with our children.