

Make a Songbird Mobile

Celebrate spring and migratory birds by making a colorful mobile!

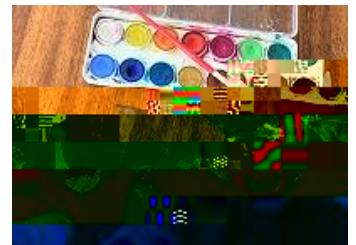


Materials Needed:

Songbird Template printable (or draw your own), cardstock, watercolor paints, paintbrush, popsicle sticks (or wooden chopsticks or unsharpened pencils), string, scissors.

Instructions:

Step 1: Print or trace the songbird template on cardstock. Cut out four songbirds, and paint them on both sides. Make them look realistic, or use your imagination! Let them dry for a few minutes.



Alternatively, you can color the birds with crayons or colored pencils.

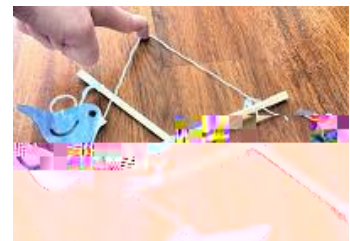
Step 2: Take two popsicle sticks, chopsticks, or unsharpened pencils. Use string to tie them together in an X shape.



Step 3: Use scissors or the tip of a pencil to make a small hole at the top of each bird. Tie a string through the hole. Make each string a slightly different length.

Step 4: Tie the other end of the strings around the ends of the sticks, one string per each of the four ends.

Step 5: Tie a string around the ends of one stick, so that it makes a loop (see picture). Hang up your mobile!



Songbird Template Printable



Alaska Songbirds

There are over 5000 species of songbirds, which belong to the order *Columbigallinae*. They live all over the world. Songbirds are known for diverse and elaborate songs, which they use for attracting mates and holding territory. Many songbirds migrate to Alaska each summer to breed, feed on abundant insects, and raise their young. Alaska has 157 species of songbirds.