

Growing Fruit: Bird Feeders for Flying Berry Eaters! Milk Carton Bird Feeder

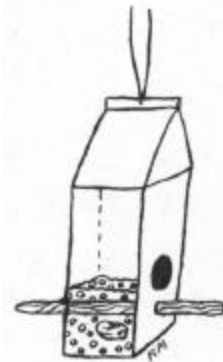
Birds are known for their big appetites for small fruits. They adore strawberries and get VERY brave about taking them if you don't watch out! To protect your small fruits, give the birds something else to eat.

Build a homemade bird feeder by following the instructions for a **Milk Carton Bird Feeder** or a **Milk Jug Bird Feeder**.

You will want to **place** the bird feeder far away from your strawberry or other fruit plants. **Ask** someone to help you hang the feeder where animals can't reach it and where it is out of direct sunlight. **Fill** the feeder with berries, seeds, breadcrumbs, or leftover fruit.

It may take a while for birds to find your feeder, but **keep** your eyes open because they will come!

You need: a quart-size milk carton
stick (about 1 foot long)
heavy string or wire
scissors
paint or other decoration (optional)
a rock



1. **Measure** 3-inches up from the bottom of the milk carton, and **mark** a dot on the side of the carton. **Do** the same on the opposite side. At each dot, **cut** a hole about 3 1/2 inches in diameter (so a bird can poke in its head).
2. **Make** a smaller hole just large enough for your stick to fit through under each of the big holes. **Put** your stick through the holes. It should stick out of both sides of the carton so birds can perch on it while they are eating.
3. **Punch** a hole through the top of the carton and **place** a piece of heavy string or wire through the hole so you can hang up the feeder. **Paint** or **decorate** your feeder, if you like. **Place** the rock or other weight in the bottom to help keep the feeder from blowing around in the wind.