

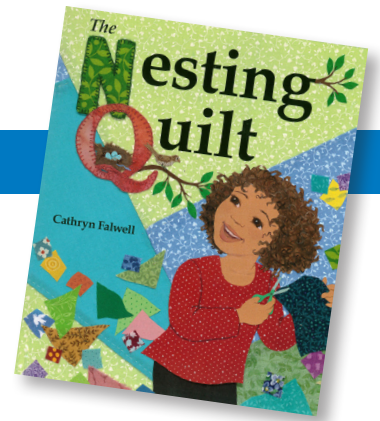
# The Nesting Quilt

## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**Themes:** Family, Birds, Habitats, Crafting

**Book Brief:** A young girl makes connections between her family preparing for a new baby and the birds she watches outside caring for their own babies.

**Author and  
Illustrator:**  
Cathryn Falwell



## TIME TO READ!



**Before reading, make predictions:** Who do you think the little girl is making a quilt for? Why do you think it's called a nesting quilt?

**While reading, make connections:** What types

of birds live in your area? Have you ever seen a bird's nest up close? What was it made of? How is your family like Maya's family? How is your family different?

What kinds of craft activities do you enjoy? Does anyone in your family make quilts?

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ What type of big sister do you think Maya will be?
- ◆ Why do you think Maya and her family like birds so much?
- ◆ Who taught Maya how to sew?
- ◆ What is Maya's relationship with her grandmother like?
- ◆ Where do you think her grandmother lives?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### BIRDS' NESTS

Ingredients: 12 oz. package of chow mein noodles, 12 oz. package of butterscotch chips, egg-shaped candies

Melt butterscotch chips in microwave for 30 seconds at a time until melted, stirring every break. Add chow mein noodles; mix until combined. Spoon out the mixture onto a sheet of wax paper, 1/4 cup at a time. Place 3 candies in the middle of each "nest" to represent bird eggs. Let cool for 5 minutes before eating. "Chow" down!

### BIRD ID

Want to identify the birds in your area? Download this free app: <http://merlin.allaboutbirds.org>. You'll be a bird identification expert in no time!

### NO SEW QUILT ART

Materials: white card stock, scrap material, paint brush, glue, water, bowl, scissors

First, explore the National Quilt Collection for design ideas: [www.americanhistory.si.edu/press/fact-sheets/national-quilt-collection](http://www.americanhistory.si.edu/press/fact-sheets/national-quilt-collection). Cut the scrap material into desired shapes. Experiment by placing shapes onto the card stock. Once you have your desired pattern, mix glue with a little water in a bowl. Brush the glue mixture over the material to stick it to the card stock. Apply 2-3 coats. Let dry, then hang it up for all to admire!



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



### OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

*Rainbow Stew* (2013)  
*Scout!* (2008)  
*David's Drawings* (2007)



Reading Is  
Fundamental