

## Pine Cone Bird Feeder

This is a fun activity for a Christmas party.

You'll need:

- . One pine cone per person
- . About one 16-oz jar peanut butter for each dozen pine cones (depending on size of pine cones)
- . About 1/2 cup cornmeal for each jar of peanut butter
- . String to hang it with, about 2 feet (or use wire to help keep the squirrels from getting it)
- . Birdseed
- . Metal knives or spoons to spread the peanut butter
- . A large bowl for mixing
- . A large spoon for mixing
- . A large baking pan for rolling the cones in the birdseed
- . Covered work surfaces for preparing and setting aside the feeders

First, tie one end of a two-foot length of string (or wire) around the top of each pinecone.

Mix peanut butter and cornmeal together in a large bowl. Add only enough cornmeal to keep the mix from being too sticky, but not so dry that it will crumble.

Spread this mix on the pinecones, pushing it deep into the openings.

Roll each pinecone in the pan of birdseed.

Set aside on a sheet of wax paper or other protected surface until ready to hang (or take home).

To hang a feeder, attach it two feet below a low branch of a tree, or to a clothesline.

If you put it near a window, you can watch the birds enjoy their treat!

Notes:

- . If the guests will be taking their creations home, you'll need large plastic bags or similar containers for transporting them.
- . Keep in mind that once you start feeding the birds, it's kind to feed them through the winter season. Give your guests a copy of the recipe to encourage this, and so they can continue their enjoyment of watching the birds!