Bald Eagle

Length
28–37.8 in
about 3 ft

Wingspan
80.3 in
About 61/2 ft
Build the Best Nest 1

Bird Nest Sizes

A Bald Eagle Nest is 5-6’ diameter
Build the Best Nest 2

Large eagle nest made from large sticks at top of tree with two juvenile birds.
A Bald Eagle Nest is 5-6’ diameter.
Northern Cardinal

Length
8.3–9.1 in

Wingspan
9.8–12.2 in
Up to 1 ft
Build the Best Nest 3

Bird Nest Sizes

A Northern Cardinal Nest is 4” diameter.
Build the Best Nest 4

Cardinal nest made from twigs and dried grasses
A Northern Cardinal Nest is 4” diameter.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Length
2.8–3.5 in

Wingspan
3.1–4.3 in
Build the Best Nest 5

Bird Nest Sizes

A Ruby-throated Hummingbird Nest is 2” diameter.
Actual Size

Renee Grayson CC BY 2.0
Build the Best Nest 6
Hummingbird nests are made from plant fibers and spider silk.
A Ruby-throated Hummingbird nest is 2” diameter.
Build the Best Nest 7

Many birds that nest in Maryland migrate in the winter. They can take overland routes or fly directly across the Gulf.
Build the Best Nest 8

Migrant Bird: Baltimore Oriole

Orioles breed in Maryland but spend their winters mostly in Central America from Mexico to Columbia.
Build the Best Nest 9

Migrant Bird: Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds breed in Maryland but spend their winters in Central America, including the Yucatan, Mexico.
Build the Best Nest 10

Migrant Bird: Scarlet Tanager

Scarlet Tanagers breed in mature forests in Maryland but winter in Columbia and the Northwest of South America
Migrant Bird: Osprey

Ospreys breed in the Chesapeake Bay area but winter in the north of South America including in Venezuela.
Build the Best Nest 12
Male and Female Northern Cardinal
Female northern cardinal’s feathers are camouflaged.
Wood Duck

David Mitchell CC BY 2.0
Build the Best Nest 13
Male and Female Wood Duck
Female wood duck’s feathers are camouflaged.
Red-winged Blackbird
Build the Best Nest 14
Male and Female Red-winged Blackbird
Have students guess which is the male and which the female.
American Robin
Build the Best Nest 15

American Robin

Have students guess which is the male and which the female. Male birds have a deeper orange breast and blacker head and back.
Build the Best Nest 16

Examples of camouflaged eggs in ground nests.
Build the Best Nest 17
Examples of eggs from nests in trees.