

5 Flowers, 4 Stories, 3 Cheers for Animals!

WHEN A CAMERA MEETS A NEST

Did you ever wish you could peek inside a bird's nest? **Sharon Beals's** photographs let you do just that. She photographs nests collected by scientists and stored for safekeeping in museums. Some of them are 100 years old!

Sharon's photographs let you see what nests are made of. Sometimes birds build nests with whatever they can find, like bits of paper, string, and ribbon. Birds can even make nests from nails. Ouch! Nails don't sound cozy!

"I hope that my art makes people curious about birds' nests," Sharon says. "As we learn more about nests, we learn how to keep birds' homes safe and protected."

One way to care for birds, says Sharon, is to plant bushes and flowers that they can enjoy.



Big Nests, Little Nests

A bald eagle's nest can be very big. It can weigh as much as a hippopotamus! The nest of a hummingbird can be so small, a coin can cover it. Who are the best nest-builders? Small birds! Why? Their little beaks can weave nests from string and ribbon, and other itty-bitty things.

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