

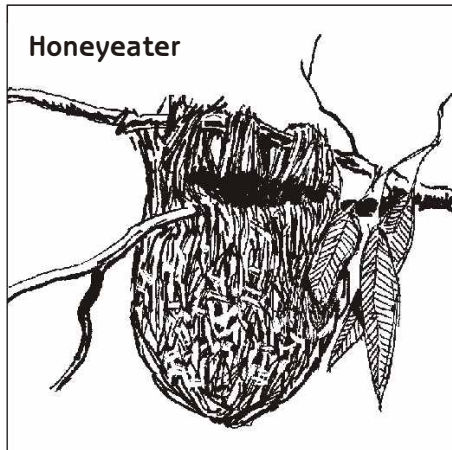
Junior Ranger Nature Notes



WHAT NEST IS THAT?

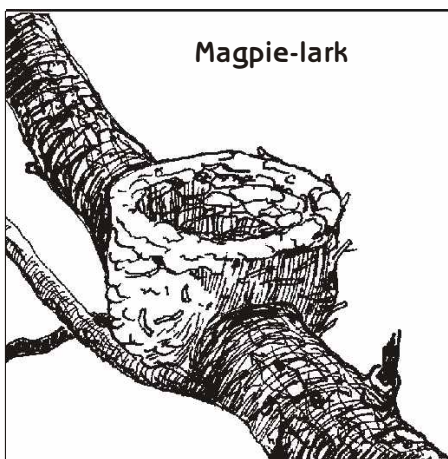
Bird's nest come in all shapes and sizes.
Look out for these nests as you explore the bush.

Honeyeater



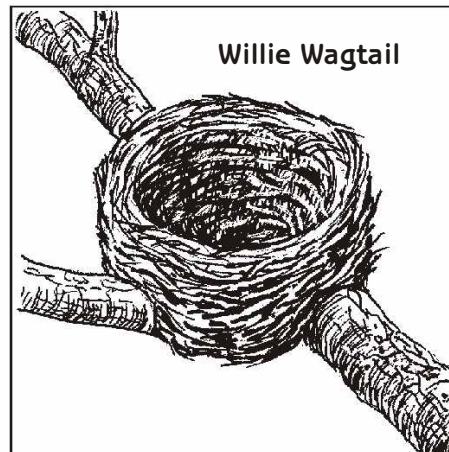
A suspended cup of grass,
bark and spider web.

Magpie-lark



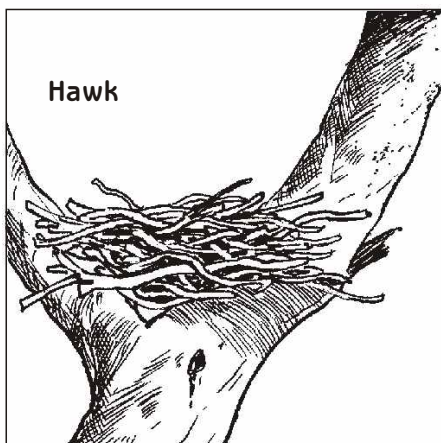
A bowl of grass covered by
mud.

Willie Wagtail



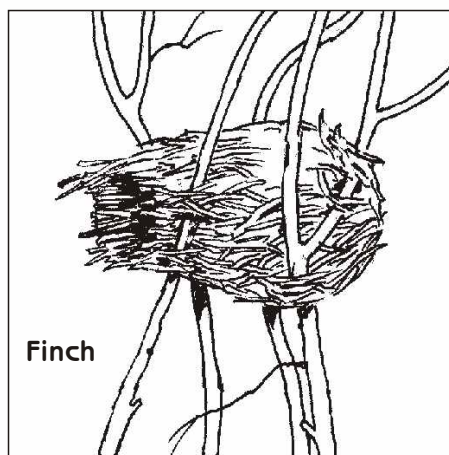
A grass cup covered with
spider web on an open branch.

Hawk



A solid platform of sticks
high up in a tree.

Finch



An oval structure, with a side
entrance, usually in thick foliage.

Cockatoo,
Parrot or Owl



A tree hollow.



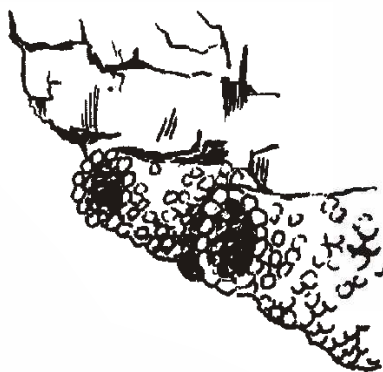
Northern
Territory
Government



HOME SWEET HOME

Fairy Martins collect balls of mud to build bottle-shaped nests on rock walls and under the eaves of buildings. To make them nice and cosy, they line them with fine grasses and feathers. They tend to nest in colonies of a few up to dozens and the walls of each nest will often be joined together.

Other small birds and even little bats often make the most of the Fairy Martins' hard work and use the old abandoned nests for themselves.



Fairy Martin
Hirundo ariel



Use this grid to work out which birds make the following nests.

	1	2	3	4	5
A	A	B	C	D	E
B	F	G	H	I	J
C	K	L	M	N	O
D	P	Q	R	S	T
E	U	V	W	X	Y

1. We build a small, frail platform of twigs in the fork of a bush.

D1 B4 B2 A5 C5 C4 D4

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

and

A4 C5 E2 A5 D4

--	--	--	--	--

2. I dig out a long tunnel in the bank of a creek.

D3 A1 B4 C4 A2 C5 E3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

A2 A5 A5

--	--	--

A5 A1 D5 A5 D3

--	--	--	--	--	--

3. I like a good lookout when I lay my eggs. So I build a solid basket of sticks at the top of a tree.

A3 D3 C5 E3

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Want to learn more about bird nests?

Check out the affordable field guides **Field Guide to the Birds of Australia** by Pizzey & Knight. It gives a description of most of Australia's bird nests.