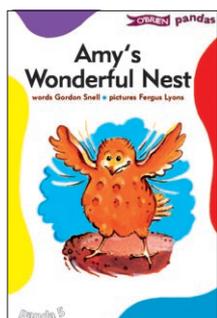


AMY'S WONDERFUL NEST – PANDA 5



by Gordon Snell, illustrated by Fergus Lyons

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Baby robin Amy lives with her parents and siblings in a warm nest high up in a tree. Unable to fly, the chicks depend on their parents for food and shelter. But Amy is curious about the big world outside. Leaning over the edge one day, she falls to the ground. Frightened, she decides to build herself a nest for protection. Using discarded rubbish, she creates her new home, adding designer touches like feather-brush, bath and flag! She then lies down for a rest – and awakes to find herself safely back in a high tree, out of reach of cats and dogs. Amy's beautiful home is awarded first prize in the Nest of the Year competition, and her family is so impressed, they all move to Amy's wonderful nest.

LANGUAGE – ENGLISH

- ◆ Language of movement: Fly, flap, lean, fall, hop, hide, scramble, slide, pull.
- ◆ Reader involvement by use of questions: 'And what did she find?'
- ◆ Awards and achievements: Children discuss and list achievements, such as tying own laces, buttoning own coat, making own lunch, learning to read.
- ◆ Creative: Children write poems or stories imagining themselves as trees, branches or leaves, describing changes witnessed or undergone, about animals/birds who visit.

SESE – SCIENCE

- ◆ Materials: Properties and characteristics of, how different materials may be used to build bird/animal/insect homes; distinguishing between the natural and manufactured materials Amy uses in her nest; describing/ comparing materials, noting differences in colour, shape and texture; recognising that some materials keep us warmer than others, woolly hat made nest warm, cosy.
- ◆ Plants and animals: Identifying common birds mentioned in story; recognising developmental processes, such as learning to fly.
- ◆ Environmental awareness: Protecting and enhancing our locality, being aware of ways in which litter can pollute and harm the environment.
- ◆ Homes and shelter: Importance of the home as a place of security.
- ◆ Practical: Making a feeding station from old tray nailed to tall wooden post, small pieces of bacon rind for robins, sunflower seeds for finches, netbag of peanuts (not salted or roasted) to attract blue tits.

SPHE

- ◆ Myself: Growing and changing. Discussing various roles of parents and family members in providing for young, Amy's parents flying off for food, leaving the chicks in secure nest; desire of young to explore surroundings; feelings of excitement and pride on accomplishment.
- ◆ Personal safety: Dangers of getting lost, being alone, need to let others know where you are, Amy's feelings of loneliness and fear. Comfort and security provided by home and family members.
- ◆ Developing citizenship: Appreciation of interdependence of living things, how child moved Amy's nest to a more secure place.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- ◆ Game: Birds and trees. Three children link arms to make a tree, birds fly around, when music stops, fly under tree to roost.
- ◆ Movement: Children as worms and birds, wriggle or fly to music.

VISUAL ARTS

- ◆ Toothbrush spatter painting: Place template of robin on paper, dip old toothbrush in paint, spatter and remove template.
- ◆ 3-D nest: Using bits of shiny paper, small pieces of cloth, leaves, twigs, feathers, milk-bottle tops and similar items, create your own nest.