

# Building Nests



Nesting is usually seen as something that animals do, in particular birds, to care for their eggs and young. It can also mean something that humans do, to create a place that feels secure, comfortable, or in control, especially for young parents.

We are going to create our own nests. First of all, imagine the creature, person, or spirit who owns or lives in your nest.

What do they find comfortable? What do they enjoy doing? What do they hope for? What do they worry about? What are they protecting and what can be found in the nest?

You can find out more about the Tyne Derwent Way at [www.tynederwentway.co.uk](http://www.tynederwentway.co.uk)



If this has captured your imagination you can find out what has inspired us at:

[www.tynederwentway.co.uk/Travelling-Through-Tyne](http://www.tynederwentway.co.uk/Travelling-Through-Tyne)

  
Funded by  
UK Government

 North East  
Combined  
Authority

Travelling Through Tyne is a series of creative and imaginative activities that explores the past, present and future and invites us to consider how we can be good ancestors.

It is about looking closely, thinking deeply and imagining boldly with the people and places that make the Tyne Derwent Way home.

These series of activities has been designed for you to use as a starting point to explore your community. You are free to use your imagination and build on what we have done.

Travelling through Tyne was created for the Tyne Derwent Way by Dingy Butterflies CIC and artists Chris Folwell and Liv Hunt. It was inspired by the Amateur Ancestor Project created by Justine Bousard.

Thank you to residents of Dunston and Teams, The Drop In, Riverside Primary Academy, Art Diamonds, Land of Oak and Iron, Rosewood Care Home and Kingsmeadow Community School.

Photos by Dingy Butterflies, Liv Hunt, Chris Folwell and Tyne Derwent Way. Dunston Staiths: Beamish (c.1934)

[www.dingybutterflies.org](http://www.dingybutterflies.org)

 dingy  
butterflies

TYNE  
DERWENT  
WAY

THE  
AMATEUR  
ANCESTOR  
PROJECT

# Travelling Through Tyne

  
What if adapting our houses to climate change made them more comfortable?  
What if we imagined ourselves as animals too?

# Building Nests

Everything around you has been imagined at some time. Imagine a future worth hoping for. Let's harness our imaginations to create beautiful futures.

1.

## LET'S TRAVEL THROUGH TIME

Let's travel through time! You can use this weblink or the QR code to show you how to do this:  
[https://youtu.be/AYnrtphO\\_RY](https://youtu.be/AYnrtphO_RY).

How far into the past and future are you travelling?  
When you get to the past and travel to the future you might want to ask yourself:

What do people live in and what does home look like?  
What environment do they live in and how has it affected where they live?  
What do they find precious and important to them?

Use your materials to make a nest that protects something precious.

Before you start, think: Who is it for? What does it protect? Where would it belong?



You might be tempted to imagine a future based on your fears, but we encourage you to travel to a future built on your hopes.



2.

## BUILDING NESTS

### FORAGE AND FIND

Before you get started, we need some materials. Try looking in your local surroundings. Collect materials that feel right to you such as leaves, grass, twigs, feathers and fabric as well as something to put in your nest that is precious to you.

Use some of the "What if..." questions from the front of this resource if you want some inspiration.

### LET'S GET BUILDING!

**Make a base:** Lay down strong twigs, card, or stems. Arrange them in a circle or oval. Weave pieces together if you can.

**Build the shape:** Use straw, string, clay or fabric. Tuck and twist to form sides.

**Line the inside:** Add soft leaves, moss, feathers, or fabric. Make a gentle hollow in the middle.

**Make it yours:** Add colour, patterns, or small details.

**Put your special object inside.**