



Feed Our Feathered Friends – Make Homemade Birdseed Cookies

Winter can be a tough time for the birds and other wildlife, so why not start your own outdoor soup kitchen? The following recipe is fun and toddler friendly! You'll have fun making these birdy biscuits and your feathered friends (not to mention other wildlife) will be fat and happy!

Ingredients/Supplies

- 2/3 cup of boiling water
 - 2 packets of gelatin (a box has 4)
 - 2 cups of bird seed
- (any mix will do as long as the seeds aren't too large)
- parchment or wax paper
 - cookie cutters or silicone molds
 - straws cut into 2 inch pieces

Pour the water into a very large mixing bowl. Add two packages of gelatin and stir until it's fully dissolved. Add the bird seed and mix well until everything is evenly coated.

Place cookie cutters/molds onto a parchment-lined tray and scoop seed mixture in until heaping full. Place another piece of parchment on top of the cookie cutters and press down firmly to pack in all of the seeds. Remove the top parchment layer and gently poke straw pieces all the way through the seed shapes (be sure not to put them too close to the edges). Pop the tray into the fridge for a couple of hours to allow the feeders to set. Later on, remove the tray from the fridge and let sit on the counter to dry out. Flip the cookie cutters over a few hours later to let the bottoms dry out too (you will have to trim the straws so they lay flat). Let sit for at least 3 – 4 more hours (overnight is best) until the feeders are completely dry.

Gently remove the seed shapes from the molds (they should be fully dry and hard to the touch at this point – if not, allow to dry longer). Carefully remove the straws and tie a twine loop through the holes. Hang in a tree and do some bird watching!