PI N E C O N E  B I R D  F E E D E R

The return of spring weather brings with it the return of thousands of migratory birds, flying home after a winter escaping the snow and harsh wind chills. After a long journey, there's nothing quite like a hearty meal to recharge. While migrating birds time their travel with the opening of new leaves and increasing insect numbers, why not offer a little something more to our flying friends that says "Welcome Home!" Create a pinecone bird feeder and watch as birds stop by for a treat.

Materials:
- Pinecone(s)
- All-natural peanut butter (no additives)
- Bird seed
- String, twine, or ribbon
- Spoon or knife
- Scissors
- Plate or baking sheet
- Wax paper

1) Collect a fallen pinecone (or two!) on your next walk. If you don't have access to pinecones, an empty toilet paper roll works.

2) Cut a length of string to hang your feeder. Ensure it's long enough to securely tie to both the pinecone and the branch where you will hang it.

3) Tie string securely to the top third of the pinecone, but avoiding the very top. Second or third section works well!

4) Spread a layer of all-natural peanut butter all over the pinecone.

5) Place a handful of birdseed on a plate or sheet with wax paper. Roll the pinecone in the seed, so that the seeds stick to the peanut butter until the pinecone is well covered.

6) Head outside, and tie you feeder securely to a branch, bird feeder stand, or another location where birds can easily access the feeder. Watch for feathered visitors to stop by!

** adapted from Forests Ontario "Weird Wood"