Build Like an Orangutan

Orangutans build nests by bending and weaving tree branches. Try this method using cardboard and paper strips to build a model nest.

WHAT	ORANGUTANS	USE	WHAT	YOU	NEED

Strong tree branches A sturdy paper plate, about 7 inches (18 cm) across

Thin cardboard strips, about 1 x 8 inches (2.5 cm x 20 cm)

Smaller tree branches Strips of paper, about ½ inch by 7 inches (1.2 cm x 20 cm)

WHAT YOU DO

- 1. Cut a circle out of the middle of the paper plate.
- 2. Cut a cereal box into four strips, each about 1 inch (2.5 cm) wide and 8 inches (20 cm) long.
- 3. Fold the cardboard strips over the lip of the paper plate. Space them equally apart and then staple them down. (The cardboard should cover the hole in the plate.)
- 4. Lay five or six thin paper strips over the cardboard strips. Staple them to the edge. Now weave more strips through them to make a mattress.
- 5. Place a small stuffed animal on the nest while holding the nest in the air. Does it hold your animal? If not, how could you weave it to be stronger?