

Engineering a Bird Feeder: A Technical Drawing Challenge

Learning objective: To use imperative verbs and technical vocabulary to create a clear, labelled diagram of a mechanical design.

Follow the drawing prompt below to design a bird feeder for Bea the honeybee's garden. Once your diagram is complete, use the vocabulary in the word bank to label your invention. Ensure your labels are clear and include a brief imperative instruction for how each part functions.

Draw: Draw a detailed, technical diagram of a bird feeder. Use a sharp pencil and a ruler to create a clean, professional style. Include a main 'reservoir' (the container for seeds), a sturdy 'perch' for birds to stand on, and a 'weatherproof canopy' to keep the food dry. Add a small 'fastening mechanism' at the top. Ensure your drawing is large enough to add clear labels with straight lines connecting them to the parts.



Label words: structural support · reservoir · perch · weatherproof canopy · base plate · fastening mechanism

Steps:

1. Why is it important to use specific, technical vocabulary when writing instructions for a design?
2. Identify one imperative verb you used in your labels and explain why it is effective for instructions.
3. Step 1: Sketch a cross-section of your bird feeder to show how the bird food is held inside.

4. Step 2: Draw an arrow to the 'perch' and write one sentence explaining how a bird should use it.
5. Step 3: Label the 'fastening mechanism' used to hang the feeder from a tree branch.