

# Make a Balanced Bird Sculpture

“Equity is the most fundamental among human virtues.” –Bahá’u’lláh

**I**t’s amazing how different birds have just the right wings to keep them in balance. Some seabirds, like gulls, have long, narrow wings for soaring over the ocean. Many songbirds, like robins, have shorter, rounded wings that help them quickly move from perch to perch. Little hummingbirds beat their tiny wings fast enough to hover at flowers.

Just as birds have different wing shapes to keep them steady, we all enjoy more balanced lives when we

practice **equity**. Equity doesn’t mean we’re all the same. It means we’re all noble, and we should be treated with respect and have fair opportunities.

We can work to fix disadvantages caused by racism or prejudice. For example, many kids of color don’t have computers they need to do homework. Or they don’t have chances to take music or other cool classes. When we end inequities like these, all kids can fly toward their goals.



## You'll Need

- printed PDF template\*
- thick cardboard
- scissors
- pencil
- permanent black marker
- tacky glue
- ruler
- paintbrushes
- water for painting
- white and colorful acrylic paint
- small rocks
- duct tape

- 1 Cut out shapes from bird patterns. Print or copy patterns from link below.\*



- 2 On cardboard, trace each shape. Make two wings and two supports. Make three feather shapes and four legs. Cut out all cardboard shapes.

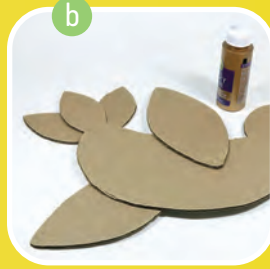


- 3 Glue circle for bird’s head to one end of body. For tail, glue feather shapes to other end of body. On cardboard scraps, draw and cut out head feathers, eye, and beak. Glue to bird.





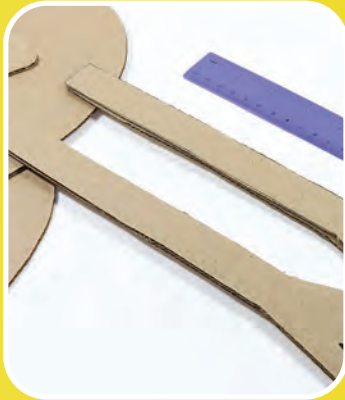
- 4 (a) Glue end of one wing to center of body.  
(b) Flip bird over. Glue end of other wing to bird's back.



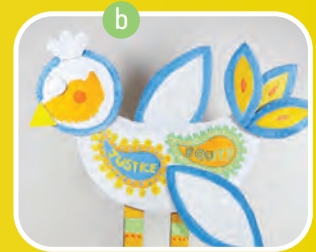
- 8 Glue heels of bird's feet and support tab bottoms to base. Tabs should extend back about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (1.9 cm) from each foot so bird can stand on its own.



- 5 Glue one leg shape to another. Repeat to make two sturdy legs. Glue 1" (2.5 cm) of each leg's end to back of bird's belly. Make sure legs extend to same length and are spaced about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (3.8 cm) apart. Let dry.



- 9 (a) Be very gentle with legs and supports. Optional: paint front of bird with white undercoat. Let dry.  
(b) Draw designs on bird in pencil. Include virtues that can uplift your community with fairness. Add colorful paint. Let dry. Use black marker for details.



- 6 Fold both feet at right angles where foot and leg meet (shown by dotted line on pattern).



- 10 Glue small rocks to base for support. Display in a room, window, or weatherproof outdoor area.

- 7 Fold right angles at 1" (2.5 cm) from end of each support, to make tabs (shown by dotted line on pattern). Lay supports on legs so tab and feet creases align and folds go in opposite directions. Tape support tops to legs.

