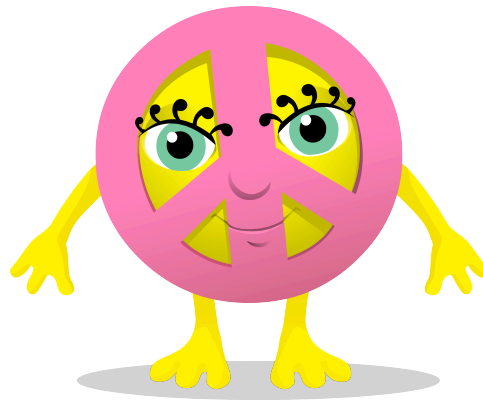




#8: A Safe Home for Osprey

Materials Needed*:

- Craft Sticks
- Air Dry Clay (to stick building materials together)
- Masking Tape
- Straws
- Tennis Balls (1 per student)
- Photos of osprey and their nests



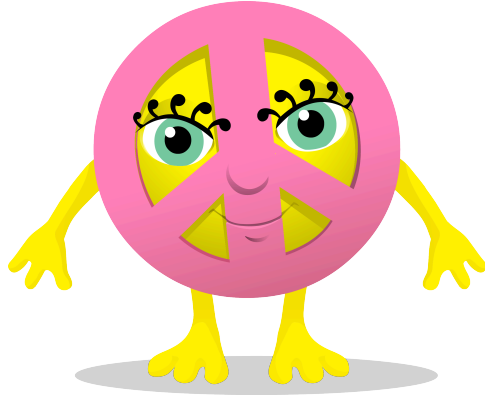
“Patsy Peace here! It’s important to me that humans, animals and things can co-exist in peaceful ways. We are often the ones that can make changes to be sure that this happens.

Have you ever heard of an osprey? It’s a large bird that lives all over the world—except in Antarctica! Ospreys like to make their giant nests on high platforms. Sometimes they’re able to find these platforms in nature (ex. The tops of large trees) However, there are so many osprey that sometimes there aren’t enough places to put their nests—so they can’t have babies because they wouldn’t have anywhere to live.

Humans (that’s us!) have been working to help solve this problem! We can build tall platforms where osprey could build their nests!”

Osprey Nest Activity:

- Start with looking at some photos of osprey and their nests. What do you notice?
- It’s time to begin building! We mentioned earlier that osprey nests are HUGE—so our platform will have to be very strong
- Pretend a tennis ball is your osprey nest
- Can you build a platform that will support the weight of the tennis ball?
- Explore with a few of the different materials until you figure out a way to build a nice strong platform for the birds to nest!



“How did your towers work out? Do you think they will be a nice, safe, and peaceful home for osprey to raise their families? I hope so! It’s great to have the opportunity to explore different materials and create something that will have a lasting impact!”

Most osprey return to the same nest year after year, so if you see a platform near you that has been built for an osprey (check online—many local nature centers will have these)—chances are, the same birds will be back visiting and nesting every year!”

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