

"40" BIRDS ON A BRANCH

On March 10, the Armenian church commemorates the 40 Martyrs of Sebaste. On this day, people believed that birds would sing to announce the arrival of spring. Forty "skylark" birds are used to honor of the Forty Martyrs.



As a class, have students make 40 clothespin birds and display them together in your classroom to remember the 40 Martyrs of Sebaste.

Materials:

- 3 wooden clothespins
- Paint or Colored Markers: blue, pink, orange, white, black
(NOTE: If using paint, you will also need Paintbrushes)
- Feathers: red, yellow, orange
- 12-inch wooden dowel or String
- White glue
- Toothpicks
- Cotton swabs
- Masking tape

Directions:

1. Color or Paint the clothespins: blue, pink and green. (Or you can leave them plain)
2. Use the Toothpick or Cotton swab to dot on white for the eyes.
3. When dry, use a toothpick to dot on the black part of the eyes.
4. Use a toothpick or cotton swab dipped in orange paint to add the beaks. Add claws at the bottom of the clothespins with orange as well.
5. Glue feathers to the clothespin birds, one small piece on top of the head and two for the wings on each clothespin.
6. Let everything dry then attach the birds to your dowel.
7. *Optional:* You can also add string to hang it from the wall or attach with wall putty or masking tape.

