



CREATE A BIRD

Create a bird and learn about habitats



GRADE 4

MATERIALS

- scissors
- glue

KEY WORDS

- canopy
- understory
- forest floor

STANDARDS

- SCI.4.3.3
- SCI.4.3.4

OBJECTIVES

- Students will design a bird that has adapted to survive in the tropical rain forest.
- Students will determine what niche their bird fills in the rain forest, based on its physical characteristics.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Birds inhabit all levels of the rain forest.
- The large hornbills of Southeast Asia live in the canopy, feeding on abundant fruit. They swallow fruits whole, passing the seeds in their droppings through the forest. Asian sunbirds are similar to hummingbirds, using their long, thin beaks to sip nectar from flowers.
- The understory is home to birds of paradise. The brilliantly colored males gather and dance to attract the plain-colored females.
- In Asia, the forest floor is home to peacocks, pheasants and the jungle fowl, which is the ancestor of all modern domestic chickens.
- The country of Indonesia is home to one-sixth of the world's bird species.
- A typical four square mile area of rain forest includes 400 species of birds.

PROCEDURE

- Have students think about how species of birds have different physical characteristics to accomplish different tasks.
- Make sure to go over the background information with the students.

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Assess the students based on their understanding of the uses of different physical characteristics to accomplish different tasks.

EXTENSIONS

- Students may be asked to create their bird in three dimensions using crepe paper, paper machè, clay, fabric, or other material.





CREATE A BIRD



Using the heads, beaks, wings, and feet below, create your own bird.
Cut out the parts you choose and attach them to the bird body.

Name _____

AS YOU MAKE YOUR BIRD, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. What does your bird eat?
2. Where does your bird live? How does your bird protect itself from predators?
3. What sound might your bird make?
4. Write a short story telling about a day in the life of your bird.

