



Teacher's Notes: Birds Have Beaks

Science Standard:

Strand 4: Concept 1: Characteristics of organisms (K, 1, 5)

Strand 4: Concept 3: Organisms and Environments (K, 1)

Strand 4 Concept 4: Diversity, Adaption, and Behavior (1, 8)

Learning Objectives:

The students will be able to match pictures with pictures

The students will be able to identify beaks on birds

The students will be able to write, explain, point to the different ways that birds use their beaks

Activities

1. There is a printable with a recipe to make hummingbird food. There is link on that page to make a hummingbird feeder from a plastic bottle or you could buy one and fill it with nectar and hang it outside a window to observe over time.
2. Make a bird feeder. There are a number of youtube videos for making bird feeders.
3. Some people like to listen to birds. It is relaxing. You can talk about that and play There is 1 **presentation** for this book located in materials.
4. Get a collection of nature magazines that feature wildlife. Have students look for pictures of birds to cut out. Depending on group you could use the pictures for different things:
 - Everyone glues their picture on one big poster board.
 - Students make their own collage of birds
 - Students circle the beaks
 - Students write a sentence describing each beak.
5. Students do an image search of birds with different colored beaks. Have the students save the pictures and insert them into a Word document or PowerPoint. Students can write a sentence describing each beak.
6. There is an app you can use to record hummingbirds you see and submit the video to the Audubon Society to contribute to research. <http://www.hummingbirdsathome.org/>

7. Students do an image search for birds using their beaks. Have the students save pictures of their favorite ones. Those are then inserted onto a Word document or a PowerPoint. Students write a sentence about how each bird is using its beak.

General Tips: The goal is to build background knowledge while leading an engaging discussion on any and all information that can be talked about on a given page. The items that you choose to bring up or focus on can be modified for the students you are working with. For example, if you have a student who can point to something in the picture, answer yes/no questions be sure to incorporate a lot more of that as you go through the book. On the same token, be sure to ask a lot of comprehension questions and critical thinking questions at the level appropriate for students working on those skills. There is something for everyone.

Page 1: A bird's mouth is called a beak. There are different colors of beaks. Some beaks are black. Some beaks are yellow. Some beaks are brown. **Point:** bird, eye, beak **WH Questions:** What is a bird's mouth called? What animal has a beak? Do birds have lips? **Yes/No:** Do birds have beaks? Do dogs have beaks? Do you have a beak? Do people have beaks? **Opinions/Experiences:** What do people have? Have you seen birds that have beaks? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 1, ask students, "What is a bird's mouth called?" The answer is the main idea card "beak." Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 2: Beaks come in different sizes. Some birds have little beaks and some birds have big beaks. **Point:** birds with large beaks, birds with the smaller beaks. **WH Questions:** What can be different about beaks? What does size mean? **Yes/No:** Are all beaks the same size? Do beaks come in different sizes? **Opinion/Experiences:** Have you seen a beak before? What animal has a beak? Why do you think birds have different looking beaks? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 2, ask students, "What can be different about beaks?" The answer is the main idea card "sizes." Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 3: Birds with small beaks eat small things. A large piece of food would not fit into a small beak. Birds with small beaks eat berries, seeds, nuts, and small insects. Have the students view the following video of a bird eating seeds. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEYGn0JDYJ0> **Point:** bird, beak, branches, berries, berry in beak **WH Questions:** What can birds do with their beaks? What can birds with small beaks eat? What are insects? **Yes/No:** Can birds eat with their beaks? Do birds with small beaks eat big things? Do birds with small beaks eat small things? **Opinion/Experiences:** Can you think of any examples of insects that birds might eat? What kind of nuts do you know of that birds might eat? What kind of berries do you know of? Birds can eat with their beaks. What do we eat with? What do you do with food that is too big to eat? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 3, ask students, "What do birds do with their beaks?" The answer is the main idea card "eat." Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 4: Birds with small beaks can hunt for insects or worms. Birds with large beaks can hunt for large things. A pelican is a bird with a large beak. Pelicans hunt for fish. They use their beaks to catch the fish. Have the students view the following video of pelicans hunting for fish.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krrQjPZOCoy> **Point:** bird, beak, fish **S:** What can birds do with their beaks? **Yes/No:** Can birds with small beaks hunt for big things? Can birds with large beaks hunt for large things? **Sharing Opinion/Experiences:** Birds hunt with their mouths. Would you like to hunt with your mouth?? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 4, ask students, “What can birds do with their beaks?” The answer is the main idea card “hunt.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 5: Birds fight with their beaks. They peck and bite at each other when they are mad **Point:** birds fighting, wings, feathers, feet, beaks **WH Questions:** What do birds use their beaks for? **Yes/No:** Do birds use their beaks to fight? Do birds bite other birds with their beaks? Does it hurt if a bird bites another bird? **Sharing Opinion/Experiences:** Is fighting a good or bad thing? What do people do when they fight? Why do people fight about? What do you think birds fight about? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 5, ask students, “What do birds use their beaks for?” The answer is the main idea card “fight.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 6: Preen means clean. Birds use their beaks to clean themselves. It is important for birds to preen their feathers. Clean feathers help birds fly better. Clean feathers help them find a mate. Sometimes birds use their beaks to preen other birds. Have the students view the following video showing birds preening. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X3xmeKbIsLg> **Point:** bird, beak, feathers **WH Questions:** What does a bird use its beak for? How does a bird clean itself? What does the word preen mean? **Yes/No:** Does a bird use its wings to clean itself? Does a bird use its beak to clean itself? Does preen mean to eat? Does preen mean to clean? **Opinion/Experiences:** Why is it important for people to be clean? What do you use to clean yourself? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 6, ask students, “What does a bird use its beak for?” The answer is the main idea card “preen.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 7: Birds use their beaks to carry things. They do not have hands like we do. When birds make their nests, they use their beaks to carry sticks and grass to the nest. Birds fly around and look for things to make a nest. A nest is where they sit at night. It is where they lay eggs. **Point:** bird, beak, grass in beak, bug in beak **WH Questions:** What do birds use their beaks for? What is a nest? **Yes/No:** Do birds use hands to carry things? Do birds use their beaks to carry things? **Opinion/Experiences:** What do people use to carry things? What do you think that a bird might find that would be good for building a nest? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 7, ask students, “What do birds use their beaks for?” The answer is the main idea card “carry.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 8: Birds build their nests. They do not have hands to build their nests, so they use their beaks. Have the students view the following video showing a bird building a nest.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PtR2iB3N9g> **Point:** bird, beak, twigs **WH Questions:** What do birds make with their beaks? Why do they make a nest? **Yes/No:** Do birds use their wings to build nests? Do birds use their beaks to build nests? **Opinion/Experiences:** What do you use make a sandwich? What do people use if they want to build a house? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 8, ask students, “What do birds make with their beaks?” The answer is the main idea card “nest.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

Page 9: Baby birds are too little to get their own food. The mother bird needs to get food for them. The mother bird might give them worms, seeds or small bugs to eat. They use their beaks to get the food and then they feed their babies using their beaks. Have students view the following video of a bird feeding her baby. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODD7DdtLvTo> **Point:** mother bird, mother bird’s beak, worm, baby birds, baby birds’ beaks, nest **WH Questions:** What does the mother bird use her beak for? Who does the mother bird feed with her beak? **Yes/No:** Does a mother bird feed her babies with her hands? Does a mother bird feed her babies with her beak? **Opinion/Experiences:** What do people use to feed their babies? What do birds feed their babies? **Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 9, ask students, “What does the mother bird use her beak for?” The answer is the main idea card “feed.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.