

Ball State University
Field Station and Environmental Education Center

Lesson Plan: Let's Learn About Birds

Unit: Life Sciences

Grade: 2nd

Essential Questions:

1. What parts of the life cycle do all living things have in common?
2. What are the parts of a bird, and how does a bird use these parts throughout its day?
3. How are adult and baby birds alike? Different?
4. What are the habitat requirements of birds?

Learning Targets:

1. Students should be able to:
 - a. List the following parts of the life cycle: birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
 - b. Identify 3 or more parts of a bird, and explain what the bird uses them for.
 - c. Compare and contrast baby and adult birds.
 - d. List the 5 habitat requirements of birds and all living organisms: food, water, shelter, space, and air.

Directions: With parental supervision, have your child watch our "Let's Learn About Birds" video (<https://youtu.be/e9BYoGDqy78>) on our educational Youtube page. The video is 3:22 minutes long, and briefly explains bird anatomy, life cycles, and habitat needs. After watching the video, have your child complete the worksheets below. Then, take your child for a walk to look for places a bird could find its habitat needs.

Assessment(s):

- Worksheet 1: Bird Body Parts
 - Using the word bank, label each body part of the cardinal.
 - Can be completed digitally or on paper
 - Optional: color in the cardinal and identify if it's a male or female (males are red all over, females are mostly brown)
- Worksheet 2: Connect the Life Cycle
 - Draw lines connecting the picture of the life cycle stage to its description
 - Can be completed digitally or on paper
- Outdoor activity:
 - Take a walk outside (with parental supervision) and look for places that a bird could meet its habitat needs. Examples could include flowers as a source of food, or a tree as shelter.

Ball State University
Field Station and Environmental Education Center

Indiana State Science Standards:

- 2.LS.1 Determine patterns and behavior (adaptations) of parents and offspring which help offspring to survive.
- 2.LS.2 Compare and contrast details of body plans and structures within the life cycles of plants and animals.
- 2.LS.3 Classify living organisms according to variations in specific physical features (i.e. body coverings, appendages) and describe how those features may provide an advantage for survival in different environments.

Next Generation Science Standards:

- 2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.