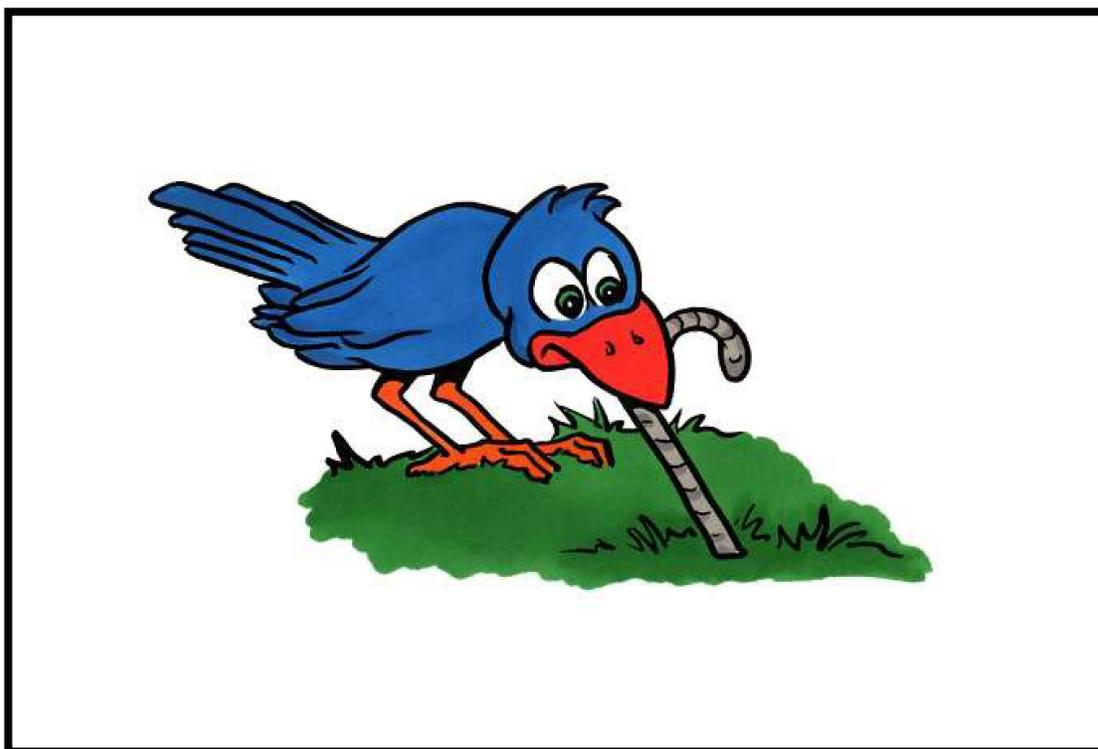




Bird Brains

2018 - Driftwood Education Center



Class Description:

Students will learn what makes a bird a bird. We will look at a bird's structure and determine how different species are adapted for different environments. Students will become ornithologists as we head out to the field with binoculars to locate different species of birds on St. Simons Island.

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Bird Brains

Table of contents and outline:

I. Pre-class set-up (5 minutes)

1. Arrange the room.
2. Check to make sure all materials needed for class are available.
3. Check with raptor handlers and make sure birds will be used.

II. Introduction, overview, and assessment (10 min)

1. Welcome students and give a brief overview.
2. Discussion of adaptations of birds.
3. What Makes a Bird?

Concepts 1& 2 Outcomes 1&4

III. Adaptations Activity (15 min)

1. Compare different birds' beaks and feet. (To Be a Bird)
2. Play a game demonstrating how certain bird's beaks help them eat their specific foods.

Concepts 1&2 and Outcome 1

IV. Outside Birding and Binocular Use (30 min)

1. Review the Bird I.D. Sheet
2. How to use binoculars.
3. Outside Birding

Concepts 1-3; Outcome 2 and 3

V. Visiting Our Raptor Program (30 min)

1. Learn about raptor adaptations and natural history.
2. Learn why birds are important and how to protect them.

Concepts 1-4 and Outcomes 1, 3-5

VI. Conclusion (5 min)

1. Collect binoculars and Bird I.D. Sheets.
2. Review concepts learned

VII. Raptor Program

1. Catching the birds
2. Handling birds and presenting them to students
3. Vulture facts
4. Owl facts

VIII. Additional Activities

Concepts:

Focal points of this class are:

1. Animals have specific adaptations to help them survive in their habitat.
2. By looking at and observing other animals closely, we can understand more about the human body.
3. Identification is a key step to understanding, and leads to an appreciation for the world around us.
4. Birds are an important part of nature and should be protected.

Outcomes:

Upon completion of this class, students will be able to:

1. List adaptations of birds and how these adaptations help a bird survive in a specific habitat.
2. Successfully use a pair of binoculars for viewing wildlife.
3. Identify local species of birds found on St. Simons Island.
4. Compare characteristics of a bird to characteristics of humans and other organisms.
5. Learn how they can protect bird species.

Georgia Performance Standards met:

4th grade:

1. **S4L1.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the roles of organisms and the flow of energy within an ecosystem.

5th Grade:

1. **S5L1.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to group organisms using scientific classification procedures.

7th grade and 8th grade:

1. **S7L1.** Students will investigate the diversity of living organisms and how they can be compared scientifically.
2. **S7L4.** Students will examine the interdependence of organisms on one another and their environments.

Next Generation Science Standards

4th LS1.A: Structure and Function: Plants and animals have both internal and external structures that serve various functions in growth, survival, behavior, and reproduction.

5th LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems

Florida Standards met.

4th and 5th grade SC.4.L.17: Plants and animals, including humans, interact with and depend upon each other and their environment to satisfy their basic needs.

SC.5.L.14.2 Compare and contrast the function of organs of animals.

South Carolina Standards met:

4th grade:

1. **4.L.5:** The student will demonstrate an understanding of how the structural characteristics and traits of plants and animals allow them to survive, grow, and reproduce.

5th Grade

5.L.4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of relationships among biotic and abiotic factors within terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

6th Grade: 6.L.4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of how scientists classify organisms and how the structures, processes, behaviors, and adaptations of animals allow them to survive.

7th grade and 8th grade:

7.EC.5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of how organisms interact with and respond to the biotic and abiotic components of their environments.