

4

Birds–Beaks, Claws and Nests

LESSON PLAN

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The students learn about

- ✧ how birds fly
- ✧ different types of feathers of birds
- ✧ flying, flightless and water birds
- ✧ eating habits of birds
- ✧ different types of beaks, feet and claws of birds
- ✧ nesting habit in birds
- ✧ types of nests and parenting in birds

TEACHING AIDS

Picture/chart showing external features of birds; **Pictures/charts/animation** on how birds fly, showing upstroke and downstroke movements; **Pictures** of different types of bird feathers; **Pictures/animation** on flying and flightless birds and aquatic birds; Feeding habits of herbivorous, carnivorous (birds of prey) and insectivorous birds; Different types of beaks and feet of birds; Types of nests; Birds feeding their young ones in their nest

LESSON PLAN

- ✧ Teacher will start the chapter with ‘Gear Up’ section giving a brief idea about what birds eat.
- ✧ Now, teacher will ask some simple questions on birds and explain their general features.
- ✧ Showing picture/chart, teacher will explain the special features of the birds that help them fly (as given in the chapter).
- ✧ Now showing the pictures/animation on the upstroke and downstroke movements of the wings, teacher will explain how birds fly.
- ✧ Teacher will explain the importance of feathers to the birds and show pictures of different types of feathers and will explain their functions.
- ✧ Now, teacher will explain about two main types of birds, i.e., flying birds and flightless birds. With the help of pictures/animation, teacher will explain their

main features and also differences between flying birds and flightless birds (as given in the chapter). Teacher will also explain how flying is useful to birds.

- ✧ Teacher will show pictures/animation on some water birds and explain their features (as given in the chapter).
- ✧ Now, teacher will ask the students to solve Check Point 1.
- ✧ Teacher will explain that birds eat insects, grains, fruits, worms, other small birds, rodents, etc. Therefore, they may be insectivorous, herbivorous, carnivorous or omnivorous. Teacher will show pictures of each type of birds.
- ✧ Teacher will explain that the birds have beak according to the food they eat. Teacher will show pictures/animation on birds having their food and highlight the shape of their beak.
- ✧ Before teaching feet and claws of birds, teacher should ask about the living places of birds. Teacher will explain that birds have feet according to their living places (showing pictures).
- ✧ Showing pictures/animation, teacher will also explain that feet and claws of some birds help them in catching their prey (talons) and searching food.
- ✧ Teacher will ask the students to solve Check Point 2.
- ✧ Teacher will discuss about nesting habit in birds, where and why birds build nest and materials used for making nests.
- ✧ If possible, teacher should display animation on birds making their nests.
- ✧ Teacher will show pictures/animation on different types of nests and explain that different birds make different types of nests.
- ✧ Teacher will display pictures/animation on birds feeding their young ones and explain that parent birds protect their young ones from their enemies. They feed and keep them warm. Teacher should explain the type of food with which the parent birds feed their young ones.
- ✧ Teacher can discuss that they should be kind to the birds.
- ✧ Now, teacher will ask students to solve 'Check Point 3'.
- ✧ The teacher will sum up the chapter by going through the points given under the head 'Wrap up now'.
- ✧ Finally, the teacher will help students to solve all the exercises given under the head 'Practice Time'.

BOOST UP

- ✧ Teacher should show animations on 'birds of prey'.
- ✧ Teacher should take students to the places where birds make their nests.
- ✧ Teacher should inculcate moral values in the students that they should not hurt birds, touch their eggs and young ones and never destroy their nests.
- ✧ Teacher should help students develop kindness towards birds by encouraging them to arrange food and water for birds.

- ✧ Students should be encouraged to plant more and more trees so that one day they can become dwelling places of birds.
- ✧ Teacher should encourage the students to collect pictures of different birds, their nests and young ones and paste them in their scrapbook.
- ✧ Students can collect feathers of different birds.
- ✧ Students should be encouraged to watch documentaries on birds, shown on Discovery and National Geographic Channels.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The students know

- ✧ general features of birds.
- ✧ different types of feathers of birds, flying birds and flightless birds.
- ✧ different types of beaks, feet and claws found in birds.
- ✧ how birds fly, their feeding habits, nest making and parenting in birds.

EVALUATIVE QUESTIONS

The teacher may ask the following questions for evaluating learning and understanding of students:

1. What is the body of birds covered with?
2. What is the shape of a bird's body?
3. What is the main feature of bones of flying birds?
4. Which muscles attach wings to the bird's body?
5. Which feathers help birds to fly?
6. Why do feathers of water birds not rot?
7. What do birds eat?