

Construct an Eagle Nest

Grade Level Range: 1st-5th grade

Content Areas Addressed: science, art, language arts

Group Size: small groups (4-5 students) and individual

Duration: 2-3 days

Key Vocabulary: bald eagle, nest, shelter, prey

Materials Needed: pine straw, glue (as mud), feathers, rocks, tape measure, pencils, construction paper, scissors, magnifying glass, berry college eagle cam, items they find in nature, YouTube video of watching bird make nest

Lesson Objective:

As an outcome from this lesson students will:

1. Use tools and materials to create their own unique bird nest
2. Observe the Berry College Eagles on the Eagle cam and observe their nest/shelter, what & how they eat, and how they get their water.

Methods:

To deliver the lesson, the teacher will have the students watch and examine the Berry College Eagle Cam for 1-2 days. The teacher will pause and have the students observe the nest that they have made. The teacher will identify different materials the eagles used to make their nest. The students will also observe how this is a shelter for the eagles and the teacher will give them facts about how the nests keep the eagles safe and away from danger. For more help, the teacher will have the students watch a YouTube video of birds building their nest. The teacher will then put the students in groups to make their own unique bird nests.

Procedures:

1. Students will watch the Berry Eagle Cam for 1-2 days observing the birds and their nest. Teacher will identify what the nest is made out of and how it is a form of shelter for the eagles.
2. After the students have observed the eagles and learned how they built their nest the teacher will have the students watch a YouTube video of a bird actually building a nest so the students can see first hand how it is done.
3. The teacher will then put the students into groups and each group will work together to build their own nest. The students will go outside and collect materials for their nest building (the teacher will also provide materials for the students).
4. Each group will present their nest to the class and explain how they made their nest.

Evaluation Alternatives:

The teacher can evaluate the students by having each group document the process of nest building with a digital camera and make this into an age-appropriate presentation for the class.

Background:

The teacher needs to know the background on how birds built their nests and what materials birds use to make them. Teacher can talk about where birds typically build their nests (hidden & away from prey), how long it takes to build a nest, and how big they typically are. Then the teacher should expand on this with specific information regarding eagle nests (built near treetops, size of nests, inner and outer nests, etc). The teacher can also bring in an example of a real bird nest for the students to look at and examine.

Resources:

- <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/pages/BrowseStandards/ELAStandards.aspx>
- <http://www.harunyahya.com/en/Articles/8168/how-do-birds-build-their>
- <http://www.berry.edu/eaglecam/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PtR2iB3N9g>

Standards Addressed:

S1L1. Students will investigate the characteristics and basic needs of plants and animals.

b. Identify the basic needs of an animal. 1. Air 2. Water 3. Food 4. Shelter

S1CS3. Students will use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating objects in scientific activities.

a. Use ordinary hand tools and instruments to construct, measure, and look at objects.