Teachable Moments

1st Grade

The Ralph W. Schreiber Hall of Birds

In the Schreiber Hall of Birds students will be immersed in habitats while exploring a bounty of bird biology. From flight mechanics to anatomy and behavior, your students will walk away ornithologists in the making!

Learn more at: www.nhm.org/explore-exhibits/permanent-exhibits/birds

Science

- Gather students in front of the condors and ducks and ask them to carefully observe the shapes of their beaks. Share observations, encouraging the use of descriptive vocabulary.

- Ask students: Which bird might eat plants? Which bird might eat meat? What do you see that makes you say that?

  To find more on beak adaptations, look to the right after the Marsh!

Language Arts

- Let students explore the rainforest exhibit, encouraging them to use their senses of sight and hearing to make observations.

- Next, gather students and ask them to complete the sentence frames: “I see ____________” and “I hear ____________”

- After a student completes the frame, ask other students if they can guess what the student was describing!

Math

- Have students measure a bird’s height using their hands or fingers and share their answers.

- Introduce the concept of estimation and/or measurement. Using hand/finger measurements, ask students to compare and categorize birds they measure into tall or short.

- If time, sort birds using other attributes and ask students to identify how you are sorting. For example, point out birds with flat bills or webbed feet.