

Bird Beak Types

Materials:

- 6 cups
- Sunflower Seeds
- Jelly
- M&M's
- Water
- Grass
- Slice of lunch meat
- Crushed Oreos
- Gummy Worms
- Swedish Fish
- Tweezers
- Chopsticks
- Scissors
- Spoon
- Mesh net/ screen
- Pliers
- Photos of different birds

Objective:

Explorers will understand why there are different types of bird beaks.

Lesson:

Today, explorers will be trying to figure out which tool is best for each different type of food source. Whichever tool works best to acquire a food source is a match! Once explorers find a match, show them a photo of the bird it belongs to.

The following scenarios are listed below with the correct match already in place.

Older students can practice trying to use different tools in order to figure out which tool will be best. Younger students may need their parents to match the tools for them and then have time to practice using the tools to get the "food".

Scenario One:

Food Source- Seeds

Beak type- Pliers (or nutcracker)

Bird- Parrot

Shows that beak cracks open their food

Scenario Two:

Food Source- Worms (Gummy worms in crushed Oreos)

Beak type- Chopsticks or tongs

Bird- Thrush

Shows that beak can grab easily

Scenario Three:

Food Source- Insects in wood/ ground (jelly and M&M's)

Beak type- Tweezer

Bird- Woodpecker

Shows how they get insects from inside of a tree

Scenario Four:

Food Source- Fish (Swedish Fish)/ floating in water

Beak type- Scooping (large spoon)

Bird- Pelican

Shows that beak can scoop up fish

Scenario Five:

Food Source- Grass/algae floating in water

Beak type- Mesh net or screen (Fishing net works best)

Bird- Flamingo

Shows that they strain the food. Similar to draining a pot of boiling pasta

Scenario Six:

Food Source- Meat (slice of lunch meat)

Beak type- Tearing (Scissors)

Bird- King Vulture

**Shows that beaks can tear meat **

