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**Discussion:** Jehovah was attentive to the birds of the sky. He designed each species to uniquely fit in a niche of the environment. Every part of the bird is designed to perform a specific function.

- Discuss body parts, parts of a feather, bird identification, and unusual birds.
- Be able to identify common back yard birds: mockingbird, cardinal, goldfinch, blue jay, sparrow, dove, crow.
- Discuss birds eyes: side of head (sparrow to spot danger & see seed), front (owl- hunter), back (woodcock- feed in mud, have eyes in rear to see danger in back).
- Skeleton of a bird is hollow- why?

- Phrases:
  - Birds of a feather flock together.
  - Water off a duck's back
  - A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
  - Don't get your feathers ruffled
  - Like a duck; takes to water
  - That's for the birds.

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**Materials:** chicken bones, feathers, magnifying glass, clay, origami paper & instructions, bird seed

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**Bible:** Matt. 6:26

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**Songs/Poetry/Art:**

- Birds of America by John James Audubon (collection of paintings)
- Read bird poems from Favorite Poems Old and New by Helen Farris or The Random House Book of Poetry

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**Books:**

- Encyclopedia &/or Science Book
- A good Bird Field Guide
- The First Book of Birds by Margaret Williamson
- Birds and Their Beaks by Olive L. Earle
- The Nightingale OR Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Anderson
- Cranes in My Corral by Dayton O. Hyde
- Birds, Nests & Eggs (Take Along Guides) by Mel Boring
- The Audubon Backyard Birdwatcher: Birdfeeders and Bird Gardens by Robert Burton

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**Articles:**

- Can You Really Care for a Pet? g89 6/8 pg 20
- The Joys of Watching Birds g01 3/8 pg 11
- Bird-Watching—A Fascinating Hobby for Everyone? g98 7/8 pg 23-27
- Was It Designed? The Bird's Egg g 9/11 pg 28
- Feathers—A Marvel of Design g 7/07 pg 23-25
- Communal Nest-Builders g88 4/22 pg 31
- The Friendly Robin g96 2/8 pg 15
- Flocks That Fly as One g86 1/22 pg 15

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**Writing:**

▪Paper: Comparison report on how beak shape determines food eaten

▪Write some vocabulary: plume gullet perch crop brooding gizzard hatching preening

air sacs pellets hook, barb, shaft glide migrate

Draw and label parts of a bird and or parts of a feather.

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**Activities:** North & South American map mark the migration routes of 4 birds of your choice

Cover one cloth with Crisco leaving another without. Spray water to show how duck waterproofs feathers.

Compare chicken bone to cow bone.

Put bird seed in a ziplock with sand to simulate a gizzard.

Model bird feet (or a whole bird) out of clay, paper mache', etc.

Sketch birds.

Make origami birds

Make a bird feeder & observe birds eating.

Look at bird feathers with a magnifying glass and identify parts.

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**History:** John James Audubon

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**Field Trips:** pet store to observe different beak styles & food

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**Resources:**

<http://notebookingpages.com/notebookingpages-com-sample-north-american-birds>

<http://thehappyscientist.com/>

<http://www.kidwings.com/>

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birds/>

<http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/>

<http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/>

**Unit: Birds**  
**West Brooke Curriculum**

**Weeks: 2 and 3**

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**Discussion:** Behavior, territories, nesting habits, care of young, migration, pecking order, birds in zoo.  
Good nest and care of young examples: Baltimore oriole, flamingo, owl, eagle, penguin, ostrich, hornbill,  
swift, grebe, guillemots, weaver bird.

What does it mean to be attentive? Why do wild animals have to be attentive? Would that be a good quality to have?

Good migrating examples: arctic tern, stork, carrier pigeon, duck, Canada goose, bobolink, golden plover, scarlet tanager

Zoo birds: kiwi, falcon, cassowary, kingfisher, crane, heron, ibis, parrot, peacock

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**Materials:** sketch paper, bird seed, owl pellet for dissection  
videos: birds, nests, etc.

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**Bible:** Matt 6:26

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**Songs/Poetry/Art:** Birds of America cont. & bird poems

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**Books:**

A good bird field guide,

How birds Behave

Owls in the Family by Farley Mowat

Wild Geese Calling by Robert Murphy

National Geographic Kids Bird Guide of North America: The Best Birding Book for Kids by Jonathan Alderfer

Birds do the Strangest Things by Hornblow

Are you my Mother?, The Best Nest, It's Nesting Time, Ducks Don't get Wet, Birds at Home

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**Articles:**

The Tawny Owl by Hadrian's Wall g95 11/8 pg 15-16

The Silent Swooper g93 3/8 pg31

Owls—Designed for Nightlife g90 9/22 pg 15-17

Was It Designed? The Owl's Feather g 12/09 pg 23

The Eye of an Eagle g02 12/22 pg 24

Where Eagles Fly in for Fish Dinners g95 11/22 pg 15-18

Meet the Bird Behind the Lashes g98 1/8 pg 24-25

Singapore's World of Birds g87 7/8 pg 16-17

Brolga, Cassowary, Emu, and Jabiru—Some of Australia's Strange Birds g96 11/8 pg 14-17

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**Writing:** handwriting: copy Matt. 6:26,  
write down observations about birds you feed in a daily log- use well chosen adjectives  
Report on favorite bird.  
Write a poem or how you feel about God's flying creation.

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**Activities:** Build different kinds of nests: eagle (sticks), flamingo (sand), hummingbird (spiderwebs)  
Dramatize territories, dance, nest building, penguin walking, tobogganing, passing eggs from feet to feet, etc.  
compare bird eggs  
Observe how birds fly, walk, neck movement, sleeping- imitate  
Research vulture- why does he have a bald head?  
Dissect an owl pellet  
Draw birds.  
Read report out-loud to family

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**History:** John James Audubon

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**Field Trips:** zoo in your area  
Farm in your area with birds such as chickens, emus, guineas, turkeys, or ostriches