



SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Bird Bonanza

4-8 Classroom Activities

Poetry on the Wing

OBJECTIVE

The students will describe one bird species using a poem.

ACTION

1. Introduce activity with a brainstorm session. Ask students to name as many local birds as they know. List bird names on the board or on an overhead projector. If students get stuck, use a local bird field guide to continue listing birds. Have at least 15 to 20 birds on your list.
2. Ask students or student groups to choose one bird. During the next week, students will look for their bird, note places it appears and its behavior, and compose a poem about their birds. the poem should be

first line, always one word: Bird

second line, two words, adjectives describing look

third line, three words, verbs, describing behavior

fourth line, two words, nouns describing role in environment (hunter, gatherer, prey, predator)

fifth line, common name of bird.

For example:

bird
black, sleek
hopping, cawing, flapping
scavenger, hunter
crow

3. Have students read poems in class and describe their observations. Post bird poems around classroom

MATERIALS

local bird field guide
writing paper
pencils or pens
access to backyard, park, or schoolyard