



Feathers Not Just for Flying

Third Reading: Analysis

The purpose of this reading is to bring together the information in both the text and the illustrations. The discussion and activity options focus on analyzing the main idea presented about each bird. They will, also, focus on comparing and contrasting the different kinds of birds.

During this reading your child and you will read the book all the way through. Two ways that you can add fun and improve recall during this reading are:

- You may switch roles and become the listener and the questioner as your child “reads” (retells) the information about each bird to you. Assist your child in matching the retelling of the text to the illustration. Help your child pay attention to the details in the illustration to remember the importance of the relationship between the illustration and the text.
- Your child and you may alternate the pages you “read” to each other.

DISCUSSION OPTIONS:

- This book is not a fictional story book with characters trying to solve a problem or reach a goal. This book is an informational text with true information on the topic of feathers. Think of other books that you have read recently. Which of them are storybooks, and which are informational texts?
- Go back through the book. Talk about the differences between female and male birds highlighted in this book.
- Go back through the illustrations in this book to determine the kind of feather highlighted for each bird. In which of the six groups would you place each of the feathers shown. For example, the feathers shown on pages 18 and 19 are flight feathers. (Kinds of Feathers - pages 28 and 29.)

ACTIVITY OPTIONS:

- Start a scrapbook of the objects found in nature. You might even choose to continue investigating feathers that you find on walks or in your yard. Copy the format that Ms. Brannen uses: a life-size drawing of the object, research simple information about the object, and compare the object to some familiar object.
- Check out archimedesnotebook.blogspot.com. This is a great science website for children. Lots of additional information on birds. The website, also, reviews books related to other science topics. Feathers Not Just For Flying is reviewed.
- Pick a bird to research. My granddaughter and I started looking at birds that visit her backyard. We researched each bird on line. She started a notebook about birds. It’s amazing how much she has remembered about the birds we’ve researched.