

Activity: Bird Beak Tools

Grade: 1-3

Location/Length of Time: Saginaw Children's Zoo, 2-5 minutes per game

Standards/Assessment Anchors:

- 1-LS1-1
- 2-LS4-1
- 2-LS2-2

Materials:

- 1 Staff Member/Volunteer for 1-3 hours during field trip to run activity
- 1 folding table
- 1 pair tongs
- 1 nut-cracker
- 1 pasta strainer/sieve
- 1 pair safety scissors
- Laminated print-out pictures of a hawk, flamingo, parrot, and finch

Instructions

Set up table with tongs, nut-cracker, sieve or pasta strainer, and safety scissors on one side and the pictures of birds on the other. Explain how bird beaks are different shapes and have different functions based on what sorts of foods each bird eats. Have the students match the pictures of the birds to the tool that has the same function as their beak.

Answer Key:

Parrot = Nut-cracker (are able to break open hard nuts)

Finch = tongs (able to pick up small things)

Flamingo = pasta strainer/sieve (filter feeders that eat by taking in water and straining out food)

Hawk = safety scissors (able to rip and tear meat)

## Bird Beak Printouts

