

# Birds Need Trees – Trees Need Birds

Science

Level 8

Strand: Life Science

Theme: Interdependence

**Purpose for Reading:** To develop an understanding of the interdependence between birds and trees.

**Comprehension Strategies:** Making connections to self, making inferences, extracting information.

## Vocabulary

*Dictionary Words:* food, insects, nest, seeds, shelter, tree

*Vocabulary Words:* bark, blossom, caterpillar, fig, flesh, flowers, grass, grub, hole, hollow, leaves, twigs

*High-Frequency Words:* a, and, at, can, for, from, in, is, it, look, many, most, need, new, on, see, some, that, the, they, this, to, too, you

## Before Reading

- Read the title and ask the students what they think the title means.
- Have the students discuss what they know about the relationship between trees and birds.
- Ask the students about the cover photo. *What is the bird sitting on? Why? What has the bird got in its mouth? Where would the bird get the food from?*
- Read the title page together and ask the students what the bird is doing. *What materials is the bird using? Where did the bird get the materials from? When the bird has finished, what will it use the structure for?*

## Introduce the Picture Dictionary

- Ask the students to turn to the picture dictionary. Read the labels and ask the students to discuss them in relation to the title of the book.

## Take a Photo Walk

- Pages 4–5: Invite the students to look at these pages and say what they can see. *What are the birds doing in the tree? Which parts of the tree are important to the birds?*
- Pages 6–7: Invite the students to discuss this photo. *What is the bird doing? Where is the bird making a nest?* Ask the students what they know about birds making nests. Read and discuss the labels.
- Pages 8–9: Ask the students what the bird in this photo is doing. *Why might it be doing that?* Discuss the parts of the tree and read the labels.
- Pages 10–11: Ask the students what they can see in this photo. *What is the bird doing? What else might the bird find in trees to eat?* Read the labels and discuss what blossoms are.
- Pages 12–13: Ask the students to turn back to the cover and discuss this photo while thinking about it. *What is the bird doing? How might what the bird is doing be beneficial to the tree?*
- Pages 14–15: Ask the students to discuss this photo. *Is this caterpillar good for the tree or harmful?*

## Read the Book

- Ask the students to return to the title and read it independently.
- Turn to pages 2–3. Have the students read the dictionary words.
- Turn to pages 4–5. Ask the students to read this page independently. Remind them to use their eyes instead of pointing, but to point if they get lost or

need to check the words they are saying.

- Ask the students to continue reading the book independently. Provide support where necessary.

## **After Reading**

### **Comprehension**

- Invite the students to return to the book and talk about the parts they thought were most important. Prompt them with questions, such as *In what ways do birds need trees? In what ways do trees need birds?*
- Have the students infer what might happen to trees if there were no birds.
- Have the students infer how birds might be different if there were no trees.

### **Vocabulary and Word Recognition**

- Have the students find the high-frequency word *need* in the text. Have the students write the word *need* and cut each of the letters out. Ask them to make and break the word each time saying *need* aloud, and check to make sure they are correct. Add *need* to a high-frequency word chart or word wall.
- Ask the students to suggest other words that rhyme with *need*. Discuss those that have the same spelling, e.g. *seed*, and those that have a different spelling, e.g. *bead*.

### **Oral Language**

- Have the students take turns at explaining what they think is the interdependence between birds and trees.

### **Writing**

- Ask the students to write two sentences about how birds need trees and trees need birds.

## **Creative Extension Activities**

- Ask the students to design and build a bird's nest.
- Ask the students to draw a picture of some birds in a tree.

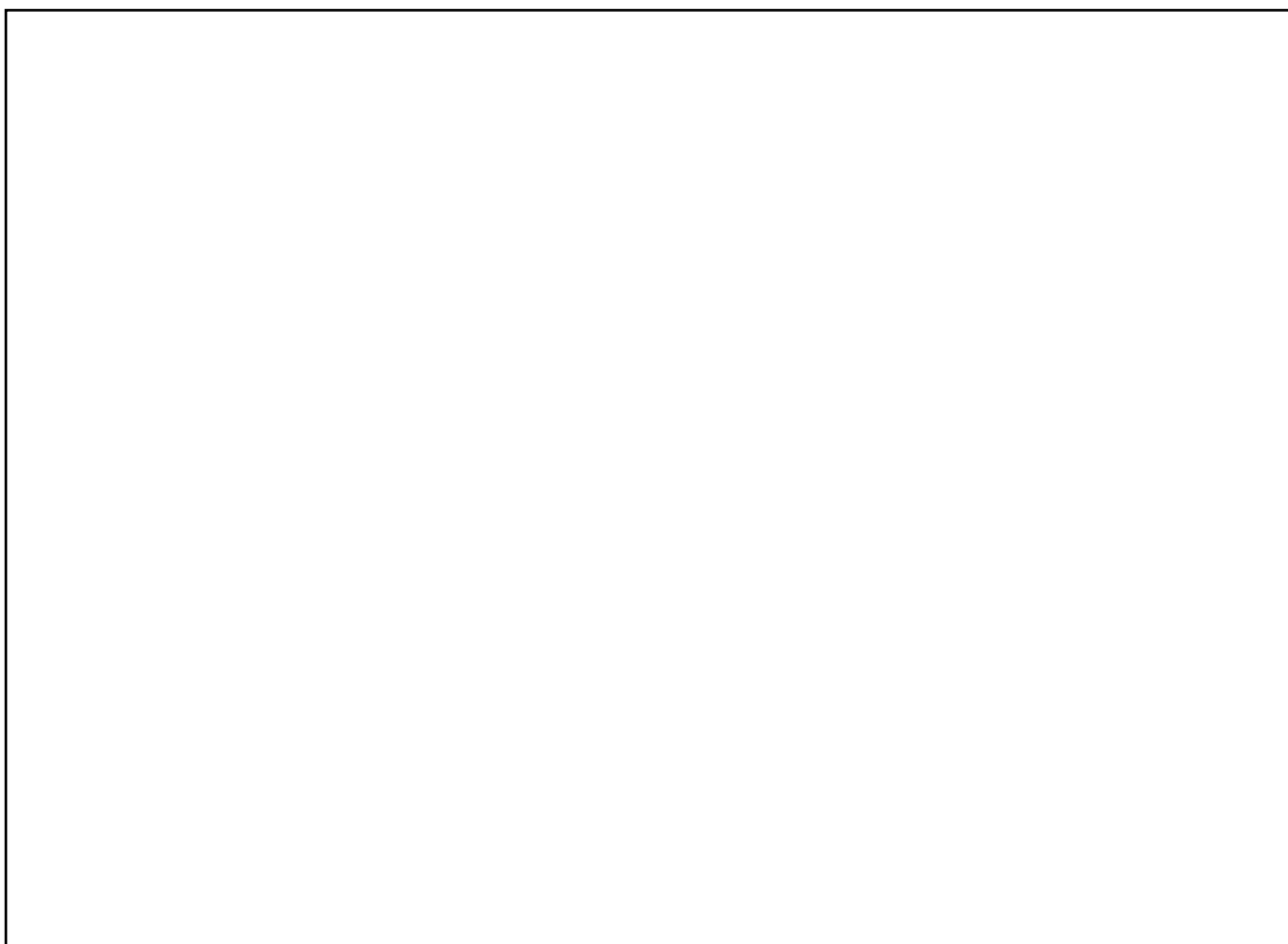
## **Independent Follow-Up Activities**

- Reread the book to improve fluency.
- Complete the activities on page 16.
- Complete the photocopiable activities.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw one thing that birds need trees for.

Write a sentence to go with your picture.



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Write in the boxes to complete the webs.

