

WEBQUEST – Bird Conservation, Flight, and Anatomy

Today you will be visiting various websites to examine recent events in bird conservation.

Audubon Society Website

Visit the following website: <http://birds.audubon.org/newsroom/news-stories/2011/alarming-declines-among-many-common-birds>

Alarming Declines Among Many Common Birds

1. How much as the average bird population fallen since 1967? _____
2. Click on the link “Common Birds in Decline”. List 2 birds that are in decline
a. _____ b. _____
3. Return to the original article. Identify 3 reasons scientists think that bird populations are declining
4. Why are birds in grassland habitats declining at high rates?
5. What is happening to the habitat in tundra-breeding birds, such as the Greater Scaup?



American Bird Conservancy

Visit the following website: <http://www.abcbirds.org/>

Select the “About Us” tab and then click on “Mission and Strategy” and finally click on “Why Conserve Birds?”

1. Describe why birds are important in conserving their populations.

Select “Threats” tab and then select “Cats Indoor”

2. How many birds do cats kill in the U.S.? _____
3. On the tabs at the top of the webpage, select “Cats and Birds”.
 - a. Why are cats such a threat to bird populations?
 - b. What species in Hawaii have cats greatly affected?
 - c. What parasite have cats spread to otters and monk seals? _____

Select “Threats” tab at the top of the webpage and then select “Bird Collisions”

4. a. How many birds have wind turbines killed? _____
- b. How is this number predicted to change with the increase use of turbines? _____

Select “Solutions” tab at the top of the webpage and select “Policy and Advocacy”. Finally, select “ESA and Public Lands”(click on the picture)

5. How much land does the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and public lands hold in trust for the American people?
6. Identify 3 bird species that ESA have helped recover from almost extinction?
7. How many species does the public lands protect? _____

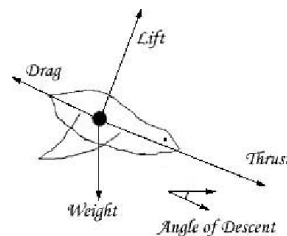
Berkeley University: Vertebrate Flight- The Physics of Flight

Go to the following website <http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/vertebrates/flight/physics.html>

- 1, What is drag? _____

2. As drag increases, what 3 things also increase?

- a.
- b.
- c.



3. a. What is lift? _____

- b. What happens as the angle of the wing changes? _____

4. As lift increases, what 3 things also change?

- a.
- b.
- c.

5. a. What is thrust? _____

- b. How is thrust created by birds? _____

- c. What is thrust dependent on? _____

Visit the website: <https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/features/all-about-feathers/#what-is-unique-to-birds.php>.

This is the website you can use to study birds for the bird song test!!!

Go through the tabs and answer the following questions.

1. What 5 characteristics are unique to birds?

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | d. _____ |
| b. _____ | e. _____ |
| c. _____ | |

2. On the next slide, select wing feather. Draw a feather in the space below and then identify the parts of the feather.

3. What are 5 functions of feathers?

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | d. _____ |
| b. _____ | e. _____ |
| c. _____ | |

4. At the top of the webpage, Click on Section 6 "Think about Feathers"

a. Describe how the structure of the wing feathers supports flight.

b. Describe how the structure of the feather insulates the bird.

5. From the list of birds that you were given in class, chose 1 bird (e.g. favorite bird, one with the most unusual name, one with a funny song, etc...) and answer the following questions using the Cornell University Ornithology Lab Website.

a. Name of bird chosen: _____

b. Describe its habitat.

c. What part of the United States does it live?

d. Does it migrate? If so, where?

e. Describe a unique behavior, characteristic, or song that the bird has.