

Session title	Birds, beaks and feeding techniques	
Key Q	How have birds evolved to find and eat different foods?	
Session description	Explore how different birds have evolved adaptations for varying diets and feeding methods. Carry out observational studies to determine how different birds feed in different ways and discover how each has evolved to fill a particular ecological niche.	
Key Stage Suitability	KS3	
Duration	30 minutes	

Curriculum links	KS3 Science and Technology: Explore the importance of biodiversity, how it impacts on our lives and how it is affected by human activity		
Learning outcomes	Most learners	More able learners	
	Recognise what birds might do to attain food items. Recognise the movement, shape and physical attributes of various birds. Compare / contrast e.g. the differences between types of bird. Appreciate that the birds are different because each finds differing food in different ways.	Understand the feeding behaviour of birds. Interpret what could be the reason for these different feeding strategies. Explain in detail how is an animal adapted to find its food.	
Key vocabulary	Feeding adaptation Dabbling Diving Up-ending Grazing Waterfowl	Feeding strategy Competition Habitat Algae Invertebrates	Grasses Eel grass Ducks Geese Swans

Session Outline	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Guide introduces the key question and the observational team challenge/feed.	
Activity 1: Feeding observation challenge.	10 mins
Two groups are formed with spokespersons chosen by teacher and guide introduces concept and sets observational challenge. For 10 minutes the groups observe the birds feeding.	
Activity 2: Group feed-back	10 mins
Guide takes spokesperson aside from each group and receives answers to challenge.	
Plenary	5 mins
Guide announces winning team and shares the answers, reinforcing the science behind the challenge.	