



ROCK EAGLE 4-H CENTER

ORNITHOLOGY

VOCABULARY

ROCK EAGLE'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FIELD STUDY

Adaptation: special characteristics of an animal that help it to survive

Bioaccumulation: the build-up of toxins within a food chain often leading to negative effects for the top predators.

Habitat: the environment which an organism lives

Indicator Species: a species extremely sensitive to environmental changes; humans use these species to detect if environmental problems are occurring

Molting: the process of replacing feathers

Nictitating a clear third eyelid used by some raptors for

Membrane: extra eye protection

Ornithology: the study of birds

Raptors: birds of prey that have sharp talons, a shredding beak, and usually hunt their prey

Making the best better!



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PRE-POST TRIP ACTIVITIES

Dissecting Owl Pellets- Students dissect owl pellets to discover what's hiding inside! Challenge the students to try and put the skeleton of the prey back together by using diagrams.

Through the Eyes of a Bird- How would life be as a bird? Have students write a story about the typical day of a bird as if they were that bird.

Nest Building- Students, in pairs, will select a nesting site somewhere on school grounds (or inside due to weather). Give each pair nesting material (various sized sticks, newspaper, rags, cardboard, Styrofoam, etc.) and challenge them to build a nest with the materials provided. To make things more difficult, don't let them use their hands, only their feet, legs, and arms!

Myths, Legends, & Superstitions- Throughout history birds have been a part of various myths, legends, and superstitions. Have students research and report how various birds were viewed in history and through different cultures.

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Rock Eagle 4-H Environmental Education. P: 706-484-2862 www.rockeagle4h.org reagle@uga.edu