

# VOYAGEURS DISCOVERY PAGES



**BIRDS AND BEAKS!  
FINDING OUR  
FEATHERED FRIENDS**



Birds are all around us! We see them nesting in trees, hopping on the grass, and soaring overhead. There are many details we can notice about birds. Some are small, some have bright colors, and some have beautiful songs. Have you noticed that birds have different beaks?

We use tools to build houses, brush our teeth and hair, take care of babies, and help us live and grow. Birds also have tools they use to help them build nests, groom their feathers, care for their chicks, protect themselves, communicate with other birds, and most importantly to eat food. These tools that help birds survive and adapt to their surroundings are called adaptations. We are going to learn about different types of beaks and how birds use these tools to eat.



## CHISEL

Woodpeckers use their **chisel** beaks to drill into a tree and eat insects. Woodpeckers also drill these holes for shelter.



## STRAINER

Ducks have a scooped beak. When they open their beak, water fills their mouth. Then, they **strain** the water out and trap the food. Just like straining pasta noodles!



## SHREDDER

Eagles have a sharp beak like an upside down hook. This makes it easy for the bird to tear and **shred** food such as fish, rodents, and other animals.



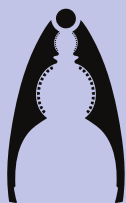
## SPEAR

Some birds, such as loons, eat a lot of fish. They use their long, sharp beak to catch and **spear** fish easily.



## NUTCRACKER

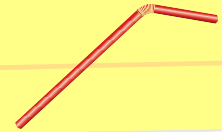
Seed-eaters have short, thick beaks that are shaped like a cone. They also have a powerful jaw to help **crack open seeds**.





## STRAW

Hummingbirds have long, thin beaks. This helps them suck up nectar. Nectar is a liquid that comes from flowers. The bird **drinks** the sugary nectar to get more energy.



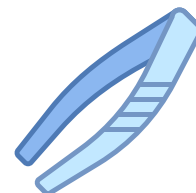
## PICKAXE

Some birds have sharp beaks to dig in the soil. A robin is using its **pickaxe** beak to dig up a worm for lunch!



## TWEEZER

Insect-eating birds have pointed tipped beaks to help them dig and capture their food. They use their beaks to **tweeze** out insects!



There are over 240 types of birds in Voyageurs National Park! Each one uses its beak and special adaptations to catch and eat food.



Now that we've learned about different types of birds and their beaks, it's your turn to become a scientist! Take a look around your backyard, neighborhood, or nearby park. Find three birds and record your field notes on the next page.



### Example

Where did you find the bird?	In a tree in my backyard.
What is its beak shape?	Nutcracker
What does it look like?	It's small with brown feathers.
Describe what it is doing.	The bird is hopping around on branches.

## **Bird #1**

Where did you find the bird?

What is its beak shape?

What does it look like?

Describe what it is doing.

## **Bird #2**

Where did you find the bird?

What is its beak shape?

What does it look like?

Describe what it is doing.

## **Bird #3**

Where did you find the bird?

What does it look like?

What is its beak shape?

Describe what it is doing.