



Fly Like a Bird (Air)

LENGTH: Three 30 minute periods and one 10 minute period

CURRICULUM: Science, Writing, Art

OBJECTIVES: Student will compare the body of a bird to that of a plane by discussion, Haiku, and art.

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL: Grades 3 - 4

MATERIALS:

1. Pet bird
2. Bird skeleton
3. Paper
4. Watercolor paints
5. Black fine tip markers
6. Richard Cronner's *Miracle of Flight*

PROCEDURE:

1. Have students examine the pet bird and, if possible, let bird sit on each child's finger. Discuss why the bird is so light.
2. Inspect the bird skeleton, noting the aerodynamic body, hollow bones, wing shape, thin skull, and feathers.
3. Discuss how the characteristics identified in step 2 help the bird to fly.
4. Review Haiku, the Japanese poetry form which has 17 syllables written in 3 lines in a 5-7-5 syllabic pattern.
5. Instruct students to write Haiku describing a bird in flight.
6. Instruct students to paint a watercolor scene to illustrate their Haiku poem.
7. When the water color painting is dry, students should use the markers to write their Haiku poem on their watercolor scene.

POINTS TO DISCUSS:

1. How is our body different from a bird's body making it impossible for a person to fly?

