

Theme: Birds



Watching and Hearing Birds Opens a Door into a Time of Wonderment That Can Take You Way, Way Back in Time.

In your imagination you open the door and step into your Time Capsule and begin an adventure back in time not 10 years or 100 years but 66 million years. Suddenly, there in front of you, is one of the most astonishing happenings you have ever seen, a nine-mile-wide asteroid striking Earth and wiping out three quarters of life on Earth, even huge dinosaurs. What an amazing



event to watch from such a very long time ago. Then from the window of the capsule you notice the most exciting sight.

Small birds are emerging out of the rubble. At first you say to yourself, “This can’t be.” You ask yourself, “Is this for real? How could such small birds survive this huge asteroid when such large dinosaurs have all been killed by it?” You are suddenly distracted from your thoughts by the beeping of a news item. You turn on the video which is a news video from National Geographic and it has this to say: (click link below or you may need to copy into the internet)



<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2018/05/dinosaurs-asteroid-birds->

Activity:

Fast forward now to the year 2020.

Each time you go for a walk hold this experience in your mind’s eye as you watch a bird fly freely overhead or hear it sing to its heart content either during its flight or from a tree top.

As you hear the birds singing through the trees and echoing in the ears of so many other birds and of people and into the whole universe let their songs reveal to you why they are here. How do you feel when you hear the birds singing? Do you think the birds feel happy when they sing? Ask yourself, are you, too, a happy person like the birds spreading joy in your family, among your friends and in your community.

Perhaps you will stop and look at a bird in a tree top and as you do, think about the fact that this bird is breathing just like you. It is inhaling and exhaling with the same energy which its creator has also created in you and in me. In our breathing in we are all inhaling the same fresh air and in exhaling we are giving back carbon dioxide from our breath so that plants and trees can also breathe from our breath of life. In this we learn that in every inhale we are receiving fresh air and in every exhale of our breath we are giving back to the planet .In this way we are all connected as one. Life is about giving and receiving.

One family who must have been good to the birds had a robin come and build her nest under their veranda. One day, as the baby birds were hatching from the eggs and while the mother bird was gone to find worms for the little ones, the family quietly tiptoed out on their veranda with their little boy and peeped between the boards in the veranda to show him the baby birds being born. Of course, they did not go near the nest. Instead they just peeped through the cracks in the veranda.

These baby birds will fly soon like all the other birds. Birds can teach us a lot. Every time you see a bird fly you may marvel at this special gift of flying which birds have and you, too, may wish that you could fly like a bird. That was the way two young boys named Wilbur and Orville Wright often thought when they saw a bird fly, and one day they decided to try it out. First the brothers spent a lot of time watching and studying birds flying. This finally led them to invent the first airplane. Click on these videos to learn more.

<http://giantsofscience.weebly.com/the-wright-brothers.html>

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/allaccess>

Response to this activity:

Please take a picture to show how you participated in watching birds and hearing birds speak to you as they sang. It can be a picture of the birds you saw on your walk or a picture of you watching one of the videos. If you wish, you can also

write to let us know if you enjoyed this activity and what you liked best and send it to mcej@live.com