

Bird Beak Activity

Objective:

Birds' beaks are adaptations that allow birds to get foods in specific ways.

Materials:

- Bird beaks: Chopsticks, tweezers, spoons, and straws
- Food types: Marshmallow, rice, rubber bands, beans, water, etc.
- Data recording sheet

Procedure:

- Have students compare the different types of "bird beaks" as represented by chopsticks, tweezers, spoons, and straws.
- Choose a beak that you will use at each station.
- Write a hypothesis.
- Conduct experiment.
- Pick up each food type using the different types of "bird beaks."
- Record the number of foods you can pick up on the data sheet.
- Analyze data to support hypothesis.

Extensions:

- Math: *Build the Shape*
 - ✓ Draw a large picture of each bird beak on chart paper. Have children match the beaks to the birds and describe the beaks' shapes. Provide assorted paper geometric shapes. Have pairs of children experiment to find shapes that could be used to make each beak.
- Science: *Bird Life Talk*
 - ✓ Ask each child to share what he or she knows about one kind of bird. Encourage students to draw a picture of that bird. Post pictures and names of the birds. Then have students describe the birds' beaks and tell how the birds might use them.