

PAIRED PASSAGES

GRADE

1



Nonfiction

Fiction

Nonfiction

Bird beaks are not all the same shape. Beaks are useful tools. Birds use them for many purposes. Birds use their beaks to make nests. They use their beaks to fix their feathers. They use their beaks to gather food.

Birds eat different kinds of foods.

Nonfiction

Fiction

Some friends are the same, and some friends are different. Joe and Lu are little birds. They both hatched from their eggs just five weeks ago. They came from nests in the same yard, but they grew up in different trees.

- Presents high-interest passages across content areas
- Offers comprehension questions for close reading practice
- Reinforces higher-order thinking
- Includes extension activities for critical thinking



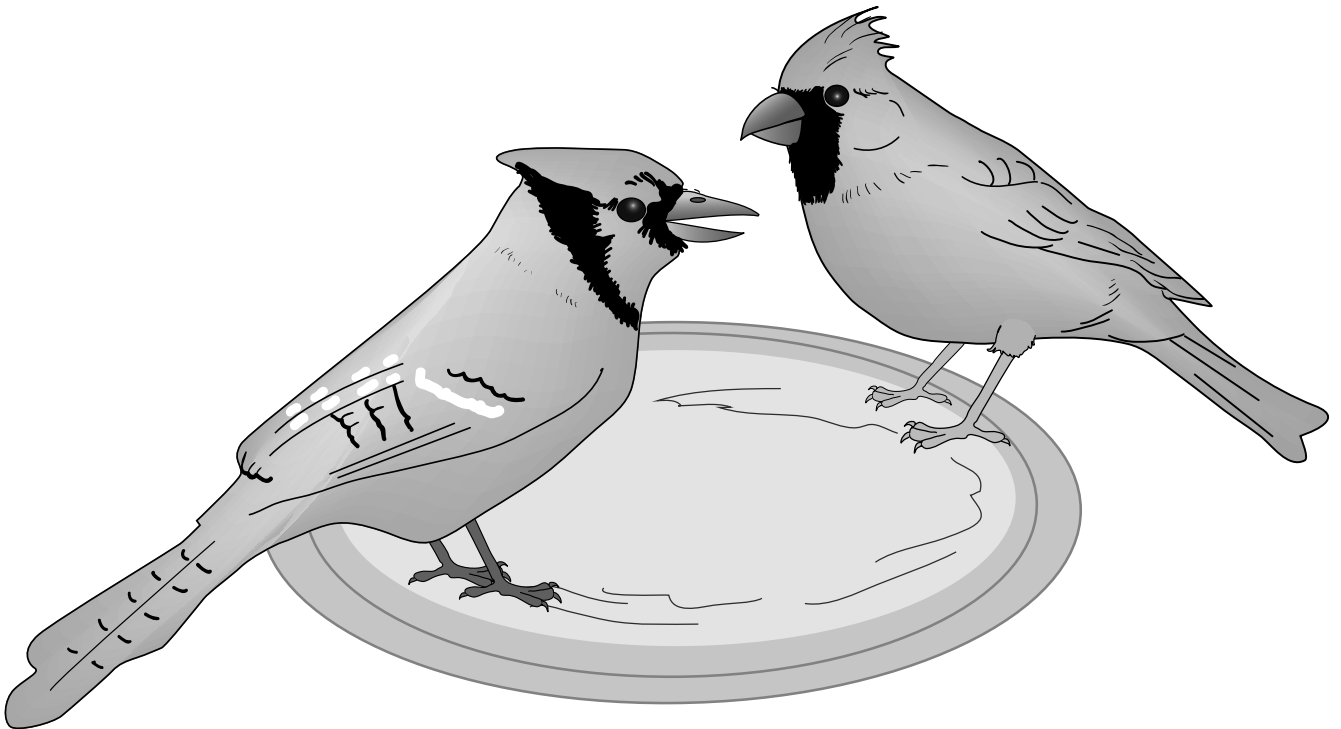
Birds of a Feather

Some friends are the same, and some friends are different. Joe and Lu are little birds. They both hatched from their eggs just five weeks ago. They came from nests in the same yard, but they grew up in different trees.

Joe and Lu look very different, but they are good friends. Joe has deep blue feathers. Lu has bright red feathers. Joe is a blue jay. Lu is a cardinal. Joe likes to eat acorns. His beak is made for opening them. Lu likes to eat fruit. His beak is a little smaller than Joe's beak.

They both love to eat one kind of bird food. They love to eat seeds! Joe and Lu meet at the same bird feeder every day. This is when they have a little fun. They fly from the tree to the flower bush. Then, they fly back to the bird feeder to eat with their beaks!

The birdbath is where birds play in the water. Many birds get a drink of water there too. Joe and Lu go to the birdbath often. On sunny days, they splash in the birdbath!



Eat with a Beak

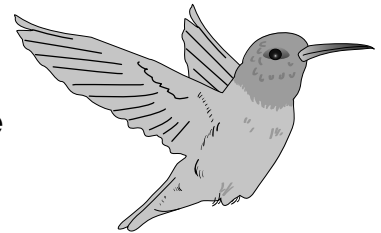
Bird beaks are not all the same shape. Beaks are useful tools. Birds use them for many purposes. Birds use their beaks to make nests. They use their beaks to fix their feathers. They use their beaks to gather food.

Birds eat many different kinds of food. Their beaks give us clues. A beak can be a hammer. A beak can be a hook. A beak can even be a spear.

Look at a bird's **bill**, or beak. The beak shape helps us understand what a bird eats and what kind of bird it is. Here are three common beak shapes:

Probe

Hummingbirds have long beaks. Their beaks look like straws. The hummingbirds sip nectar from flowers.



Chisel

Woodpeckers have very strong beaks. Their beaks look like chisels. The woodpeckers make holes in trees to get insects.



Spear

Hérons have very long bills. Their bills have hooked points at the end. The herons can snag fish.



Name _____

Circle the correct answer.

1. Birds use their beaks to

- A. hide from cats.
- B. point to trees.
- C. eat food.



2. Birds can splash in a

- A. birdbath.
- B. bird feeder.
- C. birdhouse.

Use the word bank to complete the sentences.

acorns

bill

fruit

3. Another word for a **beak** is a _____.



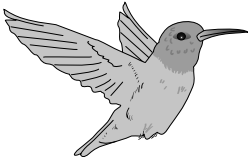

4. Joe likes to eat _____ and seeds.

5. Lu likes to eat _____ and seeds.

6. Write a sentence about how Joe and Lu are alike.

Name _____

7. Look at each bird. Write or draw about the food it likes to eat. Then, draw what each bird's beak looks like.

Bird	It eats	Its beak looks like
 woodpecker		
 heron		
 hummingbird		
 blue jay		

8. Are the two passages alike? How do you know?

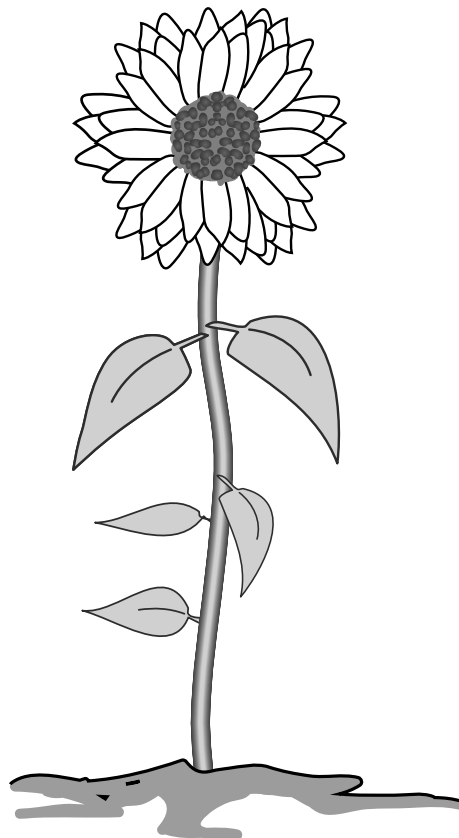
A Garden for Grace

Grace learned about plants on a field trip. Her school went to a botanical garden. Grace saw the flowers. They had bright colors. The flowers were from all over the world!

Grace liked the trees. She even saw a giant kapok tree! She had heard about this tree before. Her teacher read a picture book to her class. The tree was very tall. It grew in Brazil in the Amazon rain forest.

Grace planted a few seeds in her yard. She got the seeds from the store by her house. She really wanted to grow that giant kapok tree! Instead, she planted flowers. The seed bag said "Mixed Flowers." She did not know what each flower would look like. She watered her new garden every day.

Then, the seeds popped out of the dirt. One type of seed was growing fast. The flower grew each day. Soon, it was taller than Grace! Then, it bloomed. It was yellow. It was not as **huge** as a kapok tree, but it was very big. It was 6 feet (1.8 m) tall. The yellow flower glowed over her head. It was a pretty **sunflower**!



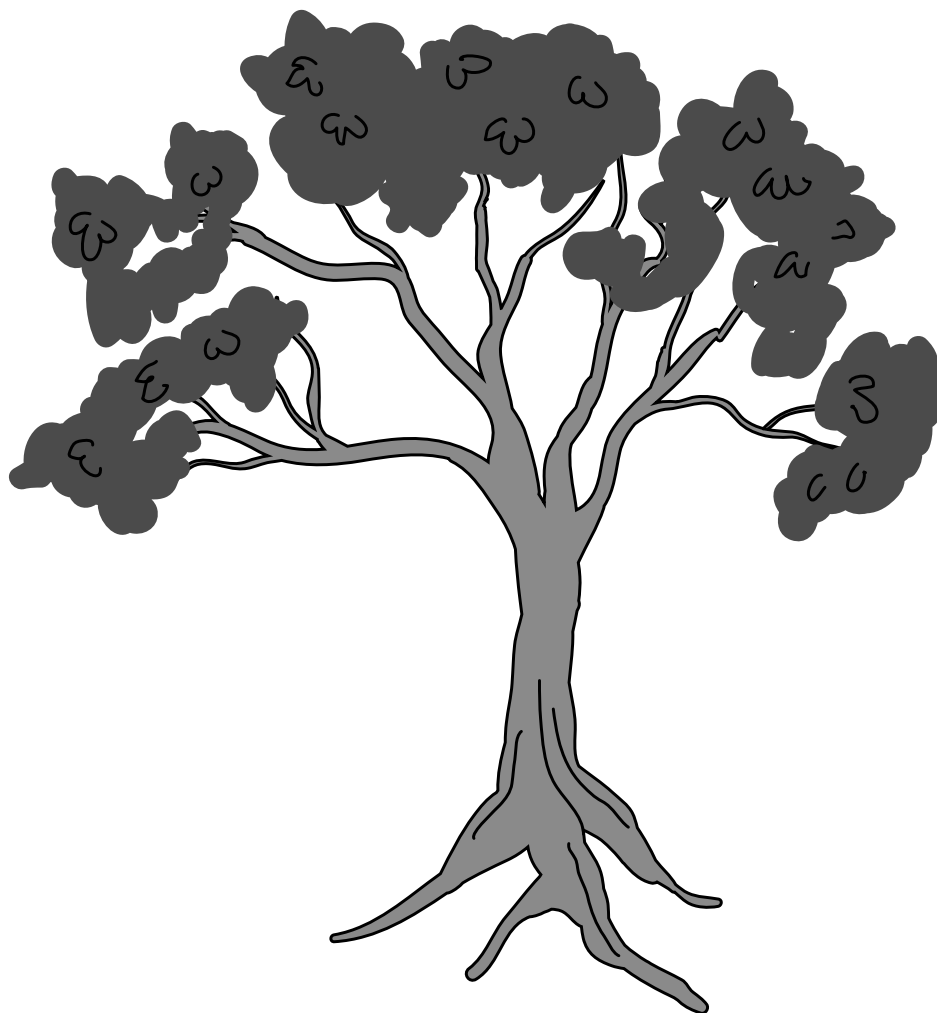
The Kapok Tree

The Amazon rain forest is in South America. Much of the rain forest is in Brazil. The rain forest is home to many plants. Flowers and trees grow there.

One tree that lives in the rain forest can grow 13 feet (4 m) each year. It can grow to 200 feet (61 m) tall. It is called a **kapok** tree. This giant tree is in Mexico and Africa too.

The tree is large. The bottom of the tree is wide. In fact, it is 9 or 10 feet (2.7 or 3 m) wide. Many animals live in the tree. Some frogs like the tree. Birds fly around the tree.

Some bats like it too. The bats like the smell of the tree. It is stinky! The smell comes from the flowers. The tree buds have white and pink flowers. The tree also has fruit. Each piece of fruit can have 200 seeds!



Name _____

Circle the correct answer.

1. The Amazon rain forest is in

- A. South America.
- B. Mexico.
- C. Africa.

2. A kapok tree can grow

- A. 10 feet tall.
- B. 200 feet tall.
- C. 9 feet tall.

Use the word bank to complete the sentences.

huge

kapok

sunflower

3. Another word for **big** is _____.

4. A _____ is tall and yellow.

5. The _____ is a kind of tree.

6. Write a sentence about a sunflower and a kapok tree.

Name _____

7. Look back at both passages. Complete the graphic organizer.

	Sunflower	Kapok Tree
What color is the plant?		
How tall is it?		
Where does it grow?		
Draw a picture.		

8. How are the sunflower and the kapok tree different?

Fishing in the River

The river water was still. The rain stopped. It was cloudy and dim. The sun was going up into the sky. It was early in the morning. Murphy **cast**, or threw, his line into the water. He was with his dad. They liked to fish in the morning the best. Murphy had not caught a fish yet.

His dad showed him how to put a new worm on the line. His dad also drove the boat in the river. He had a special card called a **license**. This card was important because it allowed him to drive. The boat had a motor. It made a *vroom* sound in the water!

Now, the boat was in a new spot. Murphy cast his line back into the water. His dad cast a line into the water too. *Chomp!* A fish bit Murphy's hook! Murphy pulled the fishing pole back. He brought up the line. A fish was on the end of the line! It was a big bass. His dad was very proud of him.



How to Fish

Fishing is a sport that many people like to do. Some people fish for fun. Other people fish to get food. People fish in rivers, oceans, and lakes. Some people fish on boats. Others fish from docks. If you want to fish, you have to do a few things.

First, you need a fishing pole. You can make one with string and a stick. You can buy one from a store. A hook goes on the end of the line.

Next, you will need **bait**. Bait is food for the fish. People use corn, worms, and other bait for the hook.

Then, you can **cast**. Casting is when the person fishing throws the **line**, or string, into the water. Toss the line gently into the water by flicking the fishing pole with your hand and arm.

Finally, you will have a fish biting on your line. You will have to reel, or pull, the fish in by turning the knob on your fishing pole. Or, you can pull in the string. It is exciting to go fishing!

