

Flight and Feathers

Objective: To understand that birds are finely tuned flying machines, with the wing and flight style suited perfectly to the environment in which they live.

Programme Description: The programme will look at the adaptive features of birds and their mechanisms for flight. Students will look at the relationship between the shape of the wing and the type of flight. Observations of a variety of seabirds in flight from the viewing observatory will illustrate how the type of flight is related to their feeding, breeding and movement. And the students will have to decide if the design for airplane wings came from the study of birds in flight.

Time: 2 hours

Age Focus: Years 4-8

Curriculum Area: Science (Level 2-4, LW – Achievement Objectives 1-4)

Cost: \$4/person





Itinerary

Arrive, meet guide at reception –
please arrive 10 minutes early

0 min

Educational Room (30 min)

- What is a bird?
- Mechanisms of flight with demonstration
- Where do they go?

30 min

Observatory (30 min)

- Viewing of flight
- Identification of species and wing types with silhouettes
- Weighted birds – difficulties of flight

1 hour

Cliff Viewing (30 min)

- Shag viewing
- Gull viewing
- Act out gliding & flapping flight

1.5 hours

Education Rm (30 min)

- Series of activity stations to look at mechanisms of flight and how the birds are adapted for flight.

2 hours

Depart