

Bird Beaks and Feet Worksheet

Bird	Type of Feet	Type of Beak	Probable Diet	Probable Habitat
Bluebird	three toes in front, one behind	short & rounded	seeds, insect	forest, meadow
Chicken	short, blunt	short & rounded	seeds, insects	meadow
Duck	webbed	flat	algae	lake
Eagle	talons	hooked	small animals	mountaintop, near water
Sparrow	three toes in front, one behind	short & rounded	seeds, insects	forest, meadow
Flamingo	long, skinny	hooked	*shrimp*	near water
Heron	long, skinny	hooked	fish	near water
Kingfisher	three toes in front, one behind	spear-shaped	fish	near water
Owl	talons	curved	small animals	forest
Pelican	webbed	scooped	fish	water
Hummingbird	tiny	long, tubular	nectar	meadow
Woodpecker	2 front, 2 back	chisel	insects	forest

Analysis

1. What features of a hummingbird make it adapted for its style of feeding?

Small legs allow it to hover near flowers and drink the nectar of the flowers. Small size allows it to hover in one place without perching on the flower.

2. Imagine an ideal flying predator. What type of beak and feet would it have?

Large talons for grasping prey, hooked beak for tearing flesh.

3. Different birds may have similar beaks and diets. Loons, herons, and kingfishers, for instance, all have long sharp pointed beaks for spearing fish. Their feet, however, are quite different. Describe how the loon, heron, and kingfisher differ in the method by which they hunt for fish (using their feet to help you answer)

The loon swims as it hunts for fish, probably dives and captures fish underwater. The kingfisher is a perching bird and probably spends much of its time in trees. It probably spots fish from above and dives for them from the air. The heron is a wading bird, catching fish near the shoreline.