

Alphabet Bird Collection

by Shelli Ogilvy

Learn about 26 incredible birds. In addition to the appealing illustrations, a birdsong is represented using phonetic sounds.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *This book is really cool because there is a bird for every letter of the alphabet. It tells a little bit about the bird, shows a picture of it and the song that the bird sings.* Due to the amount of text, feel free to read just one or two of the tidbits presented. Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if a woodpecker can peck a hole all the way through a tree?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Point out the alphabet letter for each bird (e.g. A=Avocet). Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words (from the introductory rhymes) in *Alphabet Bird Collection*

- slender: thin
- soars: to fly high in the air
- graceful: beautiful movement
- shallow: an area of water that is not very deep
- bogs: areas of wet marshy ground
- flock: a group of birds
- pursuit: to chase after something
- mischievous: naughty but in a fun way
- dusk: the time of day when the sun has gone down but it's not dark yet
- weave: to move in a zigzag pattern
- bustles: to move in a hurried and energetic way
- mussels: an edible mollusk that lives in the ocean
- cunning: clever and skillful
- flair: creative or artistic
- plain: a flat expanse of land
- brush: land covered with small trees and bushes
- camouflaged: hidden by colors that look like the colors of branches or leaves
- marshes: an area of land that is mostly covered with water

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Do all birds fly?
- Do all birds sing?
- Let's try and remember what some of these birds ate for food?
- Let's look at the picture of the eagle. What do you see?
- What are some other kinds of birds?

Do

Bird Sing Along

Sing along to the songs of each bird. You sing it first and then have the children mimic your sounds. Repeat the favorites!