



Raptor Resource Project Lesson Plans

To find more plans, go to www.raptorresource.education

Lesson Plan: From Egg To Fledgling

Grade/Level	Elementary
Time Allotment	One to two days
Content Area(s)	Science and Language Arts

Objectives

Students will make observations and understand the changes an eaglet goes through from hatch to fledging.

Curricular Connections

- 1-LS1-2: Read texts and use media to determine patterns of behavior in parents and offspring that help offspring survive.
- 1-LS3-1: Make observations to construct an evidence-based account that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly like, their parents.
- 3-LS1-1: Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
- 3-LS3-1: Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms.
- 3-LS4-2: Use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

Instructional Materials

- Photos of eaglets at different stages from hatch to fledging. The photos I took are provided with the lesson plan package or can be downloaded from the plan web page.

Resources

- From bobble heads to eaglets: Natal down, thermal down, and flight feathers!
<https://www.raptorresource.org/2019/05/01/from-bobble-heads-to-eaglets-natal-down-thermal-down-and-flight-feathers/>
- Eaglet Growth and Development: Week One
<https://www.raptorresource.org/2019/04/08/eaglet-growth-and-development-week-one/>
- Eaglet Growth and Development: Week Two
<https://www.raptorresource.org/2019/04/12/eaglet-growth-and-development-week-two/>
- Eaglet Growth and Development: Week Three
<https://www.raptorresource.org/2019/04/21/eaglet-growth-and-development-week-three-2/>
- Eaglet Growth and Development: Week Four
<https://www.raptorresource.org/2019/04/30/eaglet-growth-and-development-week-four/>
- *My Little Book of Bald Eagles* by Hope Irvin Marston
- Bald eagle books from your library or media center

Background Knowledge

The blogs listed in the *Resources Section* provide background knowledge about the changes an eaglet goes through from birth to fledging.

Opener

- Read *My Little Book of Bald Eagles*.
- Use the pictures in the book to list observations about the changes in feathers as the eaglet grows.

Teachers may substitute other books depending on book availability and grade level.

Procedure/Method/Activity

- After reading the book and discussing the observable changes, introduce the words *natal down*, *thermal down*, *flight feathers*, and *fledging*.
- Students will research individually or in small groups.

Assessment

- Individual students will make a flip book or small booklet and add the photos and information about each stage.
- Small groups will be assigned one stage. They will research information and present to the class; display as a timeline in the classroom.