

**Pittsburgh Voyager Pre-Voyage
Lesson Plan #1
"Build A Bird"**

Objective:

The students will be able to identify different attributes of birds found along the three rivers. Students will identify the role these characteristics play in regard to the bird's survival.

Duration:

*one class period (approx. 45 minutes)

Materials:

- *Bird posters and books (from captain's chest)
- *Crayons/markers
- *Construction Paper/oak tag

Background Information:

- *Discuss the characteristics of river fowl that makes each one unique.
- *Discuss the purpose of the different shapes of their beaks and feet.
- *Discuss the importance of their color.
- *Discuss the importance of their habitat.
- *Discuss the importance of their size.

Procedures:

- *students examine bird posters and books from captain's chest
- *in pairs or small groups decide which attributes they would like to incorporate into their "new bird"
- *using construction paper or oak tag, markers or crayons build their bird incorporating the attributes list in the background information section

Evaluation:

- *each group presents their bird identifying its unique attributes and what they will use them for, i.e.: fishing, swimming, camouflage

Standards:

4.7.4

- identify differences in living things
- know that adaptations are important for survival

4.7.10

- explain how structure, function and behavior of plants and animals affect their ability to survive

3.2.7

- apply process knowledge to make and interpret observations

3.7.7

- use appropriate instruments and apparatus to study materials