

Junior Bird Watcher (K-2)

"A junior bird watcher. Dedicated to the conservation and preservation of wild birds everywhere. And we like to look at them a lot too."

- Sarah

Big Idea: To discover the physical and emotional qualities that make up a Laysan Albatross.

At the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- Identify physical characteristics belonging to a bird
- Use basic research skills to explore and investigate these characteristics
- Make a pictorial representation of an animal

Materials: Laysan Albatross Fact Sheet, Junior Bird Watcher Worksheet, Laysan Albatross Picture, Pencils and a Device that can access the internet.

Curriculum Connections

Language Arts

1.2 demonstrate an understanding of appropriate listening behaviour by using active listening strategies in a variety of situations

1.6 extend understanding of oral texts by connecting the ideas in them to their own knowledge and experience

Science

3.1 identify and describe major physical characteristics of different types of animals (e.g., insects, mammals, reptiles)

2.6 use scientific inquiry/research skills, and knowledge acquired from previous investigations, to investigate the basic needs, characteristics, behaviour, and adaptations of an animal of their choice

Art

D1.1 create two- and three-dimensional works of art that express feelings and ideas inspired by activities in their community or observations of nature

Minds On

Display a picture of a Laysan Albatross onto your board or use our example. Ask the following questions: What do birds look like? How do they move? What do they sound like? What do they eat? Where do they live?

Action

Using a K-W-L chart (**K**now-**W**ant to learn-**L**earned), brainstorm with your class what they know about birds and write everything in the first column. Ask what they would like to learn about birds for the second column. Leave the third column empty until after they have seen the play, this way you can come back as a class and connect these answers with the answers they learned from the performance and throughout this activity.

Using our Junior Birdwatcher worksheet, students can look up/listen to the answers using the video links below or if your students need more assistance, we have provided a fact sheet they can look through to find the answers.

Links to Youtube Videos about Laysan Albatross:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EYNazaodHg>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SuGManLN_yc

Link to a live Cornell Lab Bird Cam for a Laysan Albatross watching experience:

http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/41/Laysan_Albatross/

Connect/Consolidate/Discuss

Once the worksheet is completed, compare their answers to the answers they came up with for the first two columns on the chart. Depending on where your class is at, you can also add any new information that was learned into the third column. Tell the class that they will discover more about Laysan Albatrosses after they see *Birds of a Feather*.

Laysan Albatross Fact Sheet



A Laysan Albatross is a large seabird that flies over the North Pacific. Most of its population lives in the Hawaiian Islands.

These birds love to eat animals that live in the sea. They feed on ink fish known as cephalopods, fish, crustaceans and other invertebrates.

They are masters at flying. A Laysan Albatross can soar for hundreds of miles per day with barely a wingbeat. While they live on the islands of the tropical Pacific, they may fly to Japan, the Aleutian Islands or to California to feed. The Laysan Albatross is a quiet bird but sometimes they will make a long mooing sound, descending whinnies or rattles.

The Laysan Albatross picks a mate that they will keep for life. Occasionally these birds form same-sex pairs consisting of two females. Their courtship is first celebrated through an elaborate dance that has up to 25 movements. The birds will touch bills, spread one or both wings, place their bill under one wing, point their bills to the sky and bob their heads. You can watch their dance by visiting this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EYNazaodHg>

MATING DANCE:

JUNIOR BIRD WATCHERS:

THE LAYSAN ALBATROSS

WHAT DO THEY EAT?

DRAW A PICTURE OF A LAYSAN ALBATROSS

HOW THEY FLY:

GENERAL FACTS AND INFORMATION:
