

Block 9: HOW DO BIRDS TAKE CARE OF THEIR YOUNG?

Context: In the class room hang pictures and drawings of various bird nests, eggs and chicks. Keep binoculars and bird atlases in a basket.

DETAILED PROBLEMS	HOW MANY CHICKS ARE THERE IN A NEST? HOW DO BIRD PARENTS CARE FOR THEIR CHICKS?	WHAT TO DO IF I FIND A CHICK?
Field activities	During spring walks in a park, city garden or wood perhaps you will spot birds carrying food for their chicks. Stand for a while in silence and watch their behaviour. Maybe you will see where the nest is and hear chicks begging for food. NEVER LOOK INSIDE THE NEST! FROM MARCH 1 THE BIRD PROTECTION PERIOD STARTS AND APPROACHING NESTS IS FORBIDDEN BY LAW. You can use the observation sheet to make notes. (9/A/1)	A trip (9/B/1) to the Regional Centre for Wild Animal Rehabilitation will let the children develop appropriate attitudes towards wild animals and provide them with basic knowledge on how to help them. You can also plan a trip to a veterinary or a zoo (educational section).
Observations and experiments	Presentation (9/A/2) will encourage children to discuss the development of birds. It presents differences in incubation length between bird species, which could stimulate a discussion on the potential number of broods within a year. It also shows the main differences between altricial and precocial species (these terms can be introduced if in the group there are children interested in nature).	Prepare yourselves for a trip to the Regional Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre and to an interview (9/B/2): Check what the scope of activity of your nearest Rehabilitation Centre is using its website. Draw a list of questions that you would like to ask to the Centre's employees. Choose five journalists from among the group who will get ready for a conversation with employees of the Centre. After coming back from the trip discuss the procedures (9/B/3) - the rules of what to do when you find a chick that fell out of its nest. Elaborate on it using your own knowledge and ideas You can also use the framework available at the SpringALive webpage.
Art and graphomotor tasks		Make information posters with instructions on what to do when finding a chick that fell out of the nest and place it around your school/kindergarten.
Language and writing tasks.	Joint reading: "Great titbits from an apple tree hollow" and "52 weeks"	Forming questions for the interview. Writing/editing texts for the poster.
Math tasks	Counting chicks in nests, comparison: more/ fewer	

CHICK FEEDING OBSERVATION CARD

What you need?

- binoculars
- camera (optional)
- observation card
- pencil



Tasks and questions:

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- Look carefully in the direction it comes from. Can you see young birds? YES/NO 2.
- Are birds concerned of your presence? YES/NO What do you think, why? 3.
- Wait patiently, you may see how a bird parent feeds the chicks

	How do the chicks behave?
•••••	
6.	What does the bird parent do?
7.	Watch the young mallards. How do they behave?
Consi	
	in you explain the differences in the behaviour of chicks of great tit, common blackbird, sparrow or





















PLAN OF THE EXCURSION TO THE REGIONAL WILD ANIMAL REHABILITATION CENTER

What do you need?

- computer with the internet
- plan of public transportation
- things collected for the Rehabilitation Center (newspapers food etc.)

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	and questions: What is the reason for our visit?
2.	Where is the nearest Rehabilitation Center?
3.	When can we visit the Center?
4.	How can we get to the Center?
5.	What should we take with us?
6.	How can we pack collected objects?
7.	Do we need help? If yes, who can we ask for the help?





















AN INTERVIEW

What do we want to know?

What questions will we ask to find out?

Who will represent us during the conversation?











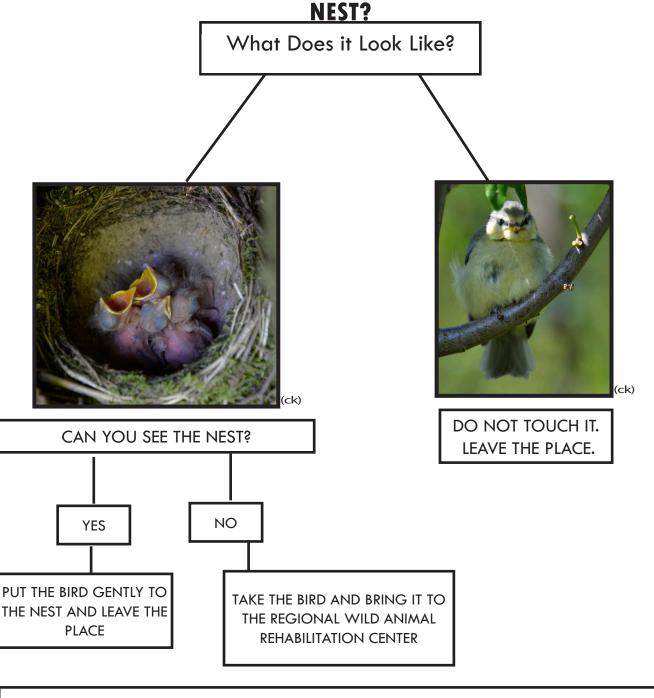








WHAT TO DO IF WE FIND A CHICK WHICH HAS FALLEN OUT OF IT'S























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This material has been prepared as part of the project, We live in harmony with nature. Educational program for teachers of preschool and primary education,.

The project involved selected non-governmental organizations involved in the protection of birds associated

as part of the international BirdLife International federation. In addition to the National Society for Bird Protection, which ran the project, he was involved in the Spanish Ornithological Society (SEO), the Slovak Ornithological Society (SOS), the Macedonian Ecological Society (MES), the Czech Ornithological Society (CSO) and BirdWatch Ireland (BWI). The University of Gdańsk became the substantive partner of the project responsible for creating materials for teachers.

BirdWatch Ireland is a non-governmental organization with a public benefit status, dealing with the protection of wild birds and the places where they live. The aim of the organisation is to preserve the natural heritage for the benefit of present and future generations. BWI is the Irish partner of the global federation of bird protection societies - BirdLife International.