



Seabirds Lapbook

Seabirds Lapbook Research and Lessons

What Is a Seabird?

A seabird is a type of bird that lives the majority of its life on the sea, whether it be close to the shore, or for several years on the open oceans.

Even though the sea may seem like a strange place for a bird to call home, it has quite a few habitats that have different water temperatures and different types of fish and plankton.

Land is unimportant to seabirds; many seabirds have lost their ability to walk.

→ Complete What Is a Seabird? File Folder

Vocabulary

Colony: A large group

Display: a special signal; a way seabirds communicate

Preen: For a bird to groom and clean its feathers

Agile: To be able to move and/or fly quickly

Scavenge: To find food out in the open

Brood Patch: A featherless patch on birds used to keep eggs warm

Down: Fluffy, frizzy feather on baby birds that keep them warm

Prehensile: To be flexible

Pelagic: To live on the open sea; birds that love to spend time on the ocean and only come to the shore to nest (note some seabirds can even fly in their sleep!)

→ Complete My Book of Seabird Words

Diversity

There are about 260 different types of seabirds. Some seabirds live in different habitats, while some can fly for months without stopping and others don't fly at all. Some seabirds fly above and quickly dive in and out of the ocean to catch their

meals, and others will actually swim underwater and chase their food. While most of these seabirds have plumage that is waterproof, others do not.

→ Complete Number of Species Matchbook

Diet

Different seabirds eat different things. What they eat depends on where they live and the shape of their beaks.

Seabirds with narrow beaks often eat fish, as the narrow beaks are shaped to easily catch fish. Seabirds with short, rounded beaks will use their beaks as a scoop for catching zooplankton, a tiny animal that lives in the ocean. Birds with slightly hooked beaks will eat a variety of foods, such as fish, eggs, garbage, and sometimes other birds.

→ Complete Diet Flap Book

Finding Food

Seabirds have different ways of finding food.

A red phalarope eats off of the surface of the water. It swims around in a circle, making the water swirl. This trick brings bits of food to the surface. When the food comes up, it eats it.

A gull is a scavenger. It takes leftovers from fishermen, other birds, and even finds some of its dinner at the garbage dump. A gull is also a bird with a lot of intelligence. It uses a rock like a tool. It drops it on clams, shatters the shell, then it swoops down to claim the meat.

A brown pelican soars above the water until it spies a fish. Then it plunges straight into the water, opens its beaks, and captures its meal.

A Jaeger is a thief! It steals food from puffins.

Murres dive underwater. Then they swim, chase, and catch a meal.

→ Complete Finding Food Simple Fold

Communication

Seabirds talk to each other by using displays. This includes body movements, sounds, or physical changes. This is similar to what humans call “body language.”

Here are some of the ways seabirds use displays:

When blue-footed boobies want to find a mate, they raise their heads and point their bills to the sky.

Many seabirds will try to make themselves look bigger in order to scare off predators.

Male terns will show their affection by bringing a female a fish.

Scientists believe pelicans turn their pouches inside out as a way of showing that they feel fine.

Pelicans also use displays when they fight. They will thrust and snap at opponents with their bills; they also lift and wave their wings.

If you have the opportunity, look up some seabird sounds so you can hear the different noises they make.

→ Complete Seabird Communication Notebooks & Pocket

Anatomy

Seabirds are especially designed for life on and under the water.

Some seabirds’ feet are not made for walking, but instead for perching and using their flexible toes to grab onto branches and shrubbery for perching and nesting. Diving seabirds have webbed feet to help chase their prey.

The legs of all seabirds are farther back on their bodies than other birds, helping them to maneuver more easily in the water.

Their ribcages are also stronger than other birds, helping deal with deep-water pressure, and the overall bone structure of seabirds is denser, making it easier to dive deeper into the sea.

→ Complete Anatomy Envelope Book

Flight

Flight is vital to a seabird's survival. Without it, they would be unable to properly catch their prey, stay away from predators, and find places to raise their babies.

→ Complete Flight Trifold Book

Lifespan

Seabirds can live much longer than the majority of land birds, their age-span being between 30 to 50 years old, depending on the seabird species.

→ Complete Lifespan Matchbook

Seabirds in Danger: Ways to Help

Humans have both accidentally and purposefully invaded seabirds' territories and colonies by ocean pollution, killing certain seabirds for their traits, and other ways. Something people can do to help are leaving seabird colonies alone, since walking through a group of seabirds can scare them away, and leave their young prey to other seabird predators. Picking up trash that is found on the beaches helps, as well, since litter can be very harmful to a seabird.

→ Complete Saving Seabirds Matchbook

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What is a Seabird? File Folder




What
Is a
Seabird?

Directions: Cut out book as one piece. Fold in half. Use the inside of the book to answer the question.

Vocabulary Book

Directions: Cut on the solid lines. Write in definitions. Stack pages together with cover on top and staple on the left side.


<p>My Book of Seabird Words</p> 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Directions: Cut on the solid lines. Write in definitions. Stack pages together with cover on top and staple on the left side.

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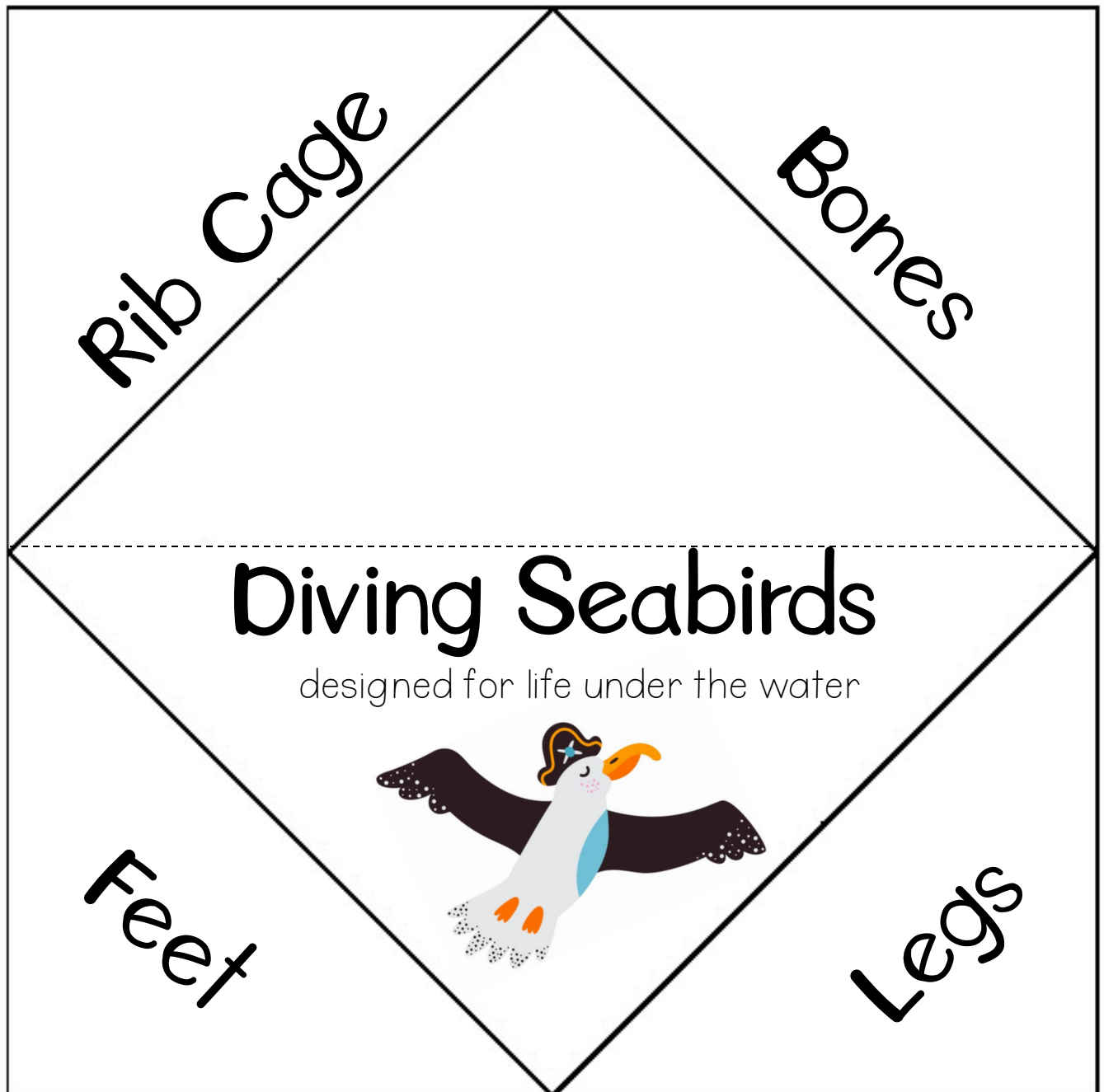
Diet Flap Book

Directions: Cut on solid lines. Fold on dotted lines (like a pamphlet).

Narrow Beak		<p>Do You Know What I Eat?</p>  <p>Just Look at My Beak!</p>
Short, Rounded Beak		
Slightly Hooked Beak		

Anatomy Envelope Book

Directions: Cut out book as one piece. Fold each triangle flap under. Fold book in half on dotted line. When you open the book, there should be four flaps to lift and record information.





Directions: Cut book out on solid black lines. Fold in thirds on dotted lines. You will have three sections when you open your book. Use each section to discuss one reason why flight is so important for most seabirds.

Directions: Cut pocket out as one piece. Fold back up. Wrap flaps around the back and glue down. Cut around notebook pages. Complete questions (who does it, what they do/how they try to communicate and why they exhibit that particular behavior). Glue notebook pages to 4x6 index cards (one on each side) if desired and store cards in pocket.

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Seabird
Communication

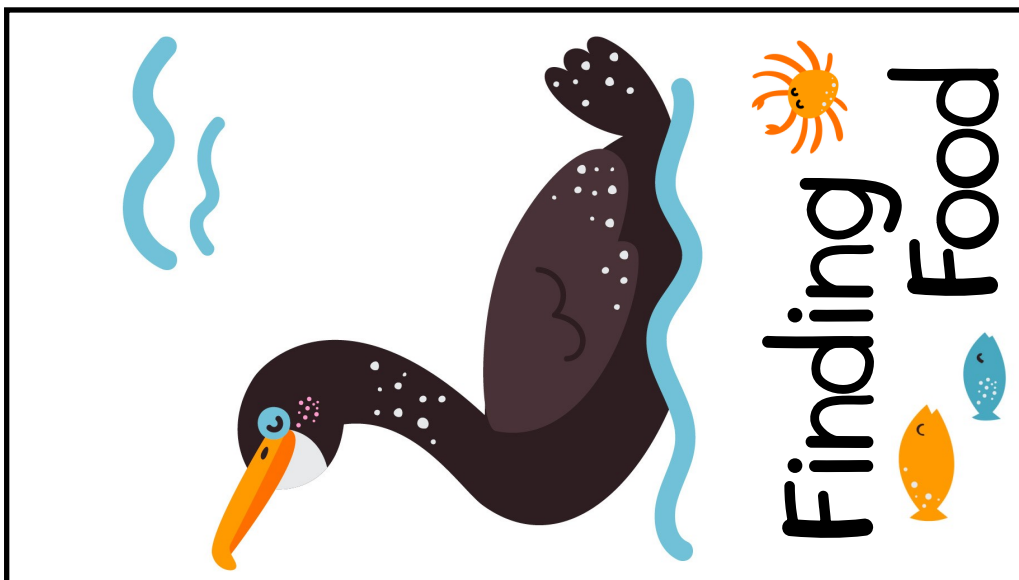
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Seabird Communication Notebooks

Finding Food Simple Fold

Name of Seabird	Method Used



Directions: Cut out chart as one piece. Fold in half. Cut and paste cover piece to the front.

Seabird Guide Book



paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____

Diet _____

paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____

Diet _____

paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____

Diet _____

Directions: Cut out pages. Complete research on various seabirds. Write information on pages. Add photos. Stack together with cover on top and staple as indicated.

paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____

Diet _____

paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____

Diet _____

paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____



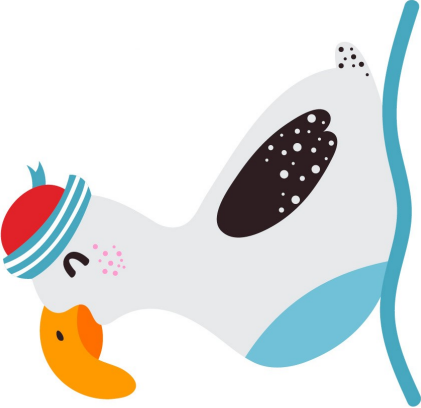
Diet _____

paste photo here

Name _____

Range _____

Diet _____

Number of Species		
Seabird Lifespan		
Saving Seabirds		

Directions: You are looking at the inside of the book. Cut out as one piece. Use an Exact-o knife to cut the slit on dotted line. Fold bottom up and tuck tab in. Fold right side in. Fold left side in. Fold top down. Cut and paste picture of puffin (and write "Puffin") on the center area.

I fly through
the water.

Paste this flap to the front of this piece.

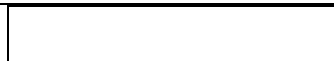
Who
Am I?

I have spines on the
roof of my mouth.

I can hold 60 little
fish in my mouth at
one time!



Paste this flap to the front of this piece.



Directions: You are looking at the inside of the book. Cut out as one piece. Use an Exact-o knife to cut the slit on dotted line. Fold bottom up and tuck tab in. Fold right side in. Fold left side in. Fold top down. Cut and paste picture of penguin (and write "Penguin") on the center area.

I can swim better
than any other bird.

Who
Am I?

I can dive 870 feet!

I can not fly.



Paste this flap to the front of this piece.



Directions: You are looking at the inside of the book. Cut out as one piece. Use an Exact-o knife to cut the slit on dotted line. Fold bottom up and tuck tab in. Fold right side in. Fold left side in. Fold top down. Cut and paste picture of storm petrel (and write "Storm Petrel") on the center area.

I weigh as little as
one ounce.

Paste this flap to the front of this piece.

Who
Am I?

I dance on the water
while searching
for food.

I am the smallest of
the seabirds.



Paste this flap to the front of this piece.



Directions: You are looking at the inside of the book. Cut out as one piece. Use an Exact-o knife to cut the slit on dotted line. Fold bottom up and tuck tab in. Fold right side in. Fold left side in. Fold top down. Cut and paste picture of frigate (and write "Frigate") on the center area.

I can not swim.

Paste this flap to the front of this piece.

Who
Am I?

I can sleep while
I fly!

I steal food from
other birds.



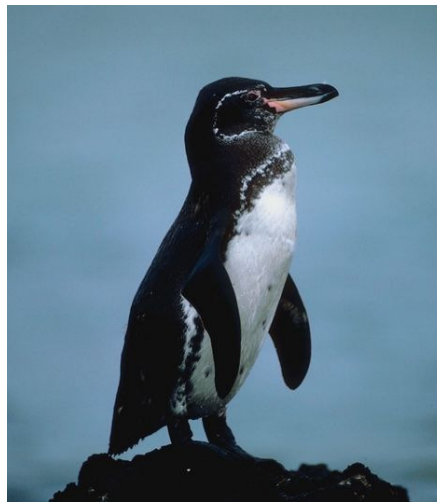
Paste this flap to the front of this piece.



From left to right (starting with the top row): Waved Albatross, Blue-footed Booby, Razorbill Auk, Northern Gannet, Puffin, Brown Pelican, Wandering Albatross, Arctic Tern, and Red-necked Phalarope



From left to right (starting with the top row): Herring Gull, Cormorant, Brown Booby, Adelie Penguin, Galapagos Penguin



Ideas for these photos:

Paste each one on a 4x6 card. Let your student write facts on the back and store in premade pocket.

Print two copies and make a memory matching game.

Make a Spotter's Guide (see premade book in the templates section).

Use to decorate your lapbook.

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