Name: _____ Date: _____

Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

Circle group

A hummingbird is a very small bird. It is so light that it seems to float. It can fly in a way most birds cannot.

A hummingbird can hover. It stays in one spot in the air. Its wings move so fast they look like a blur. They make a hum. That is how the bird got its name.

A hummingbird can fly backward too. Most birds cannot.

It has a long, thin beak. It puts its beak in a flower. It licks up sweet nectar. It eats tiny bugs too.

Flapping takes a lot of energy. The hummingbird must eat many times a day.

Questions

1. What does it mean to hover?

_____

_____

2. How did the hummingbird get its name?

_____

_____

3. What can a hummingbird do that most birds cannot?

_____

_____

4. What does a hummingbird eat?

_____

_____

5. Why does a hummingbird eat so often?

_____

_____

Words to know

hover: to stay in one place in the air
blur: something that moves so fast it is hard to see clearly
beak: the hard mouth part of a bird
nectar: the sweet juice inside flowers
energy: the power your body uses to move

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

Triangle group

A hummingbird is a very small bird. It is so light that it seems to float in the air. It can fly in a way most birds cannot.

A hummingbird can hover. That means it stays in one spot in the air. Its wings move so fast that they look like a blur. They make a humming sound, and that is how the bird got its name.

A hummingbird can also fly backward. Most birds cannot do that.

The hummingbird has a long, thin beak. It sticks its beak into a flower. Then it licks up the sweet nectar with its tongue. It also eats tiny bugs.

All that flapping takes a lot of energy. A hummingbird must eat many times a day to keep going.

Questions

1. What does it mean to hover?

_____

_____

2. How did the hummingbird get its name?

_____

_____

3. What can a hummingbird do that most birds cannot?

_____

_____

4. What does a hummingbird eat?

_____

_____

5. Why does a hummingbird need to eat so often?

_____

_____

Words to know

hover: to stay in one place in the air
blur: something that moves so fast it is hard to see clearly
beak: the hard mouth part of a bird
nectar: the sweet juice inside flowers
energy: the power your body uses to move

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

Square group

A hummingbird is an extremely small bird, and it is so light that it seems to float through the air. It can also fly in ways that almost no other bird can.

For one thing, a hummingbird can hover, which means it holds itself in one spot in the air. Its wings beat so quickly that they look like a blur, and they produce a humming sound. That sound is how the bird earned its name.

A hummingbird can even fly backward, something most birds are unable to do.

It has a long, thin beak that it pushes deep into a flower. With its tongue, it licks up the sweet nectar inside. It also catches tiny bugs to eat.

All of that rapid flapping uses a great deal of energy, so a hummingbird must eat many times every day to keep going.

Questions

1. What does it mean when a bird hovers?

_____

_____

2. How did the hummingbird earn its name?

_____

_____

3. What can a hummingbird do that most birds are unable to do?

_____

_____

4. What does a hummingbird eat, and how does it get the nectar?

_____

_____

5. Why must a hummingbird eat many times every day?

_____

_____

Words to know

hover: to stay in one place in the air
blur: something that moves so fast it is hard to see clearly
beak: the hard mouth part of a bird
nectar: the sweet juice inside flowers
energy: the power your body uses to move

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

Easier · 105 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1

1. To stay in one spot in the air.
2. Its fast wings make a hum.
3. Fly backward.
4. Sweet nectar and tiny bugs.
5. Flapping takes a lot of energy.

Triangle: Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

This passage · 126 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2

1. To stay in one spot in the air.
2. Its fast wings make a humming sound.
3. Fly backward.
4. Sweet nectar from flowers and tiny bugs.
5. Flapping its wings so fast takes a lot of energy.

Square: Hummingbirds Hover and Sip

Harder · 142 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.2

1. It holds itself in one spot in the air.
2. Its quick wings produce a humming sound.
3. Fly backward.
4. It eats nectar and tiny bugs, and it licks the nectar up with its tongue after pushing its beak into a flower.
5. Its rapid flapping uses a great deal of energy.