

Animal Adaptations (Research)

Name: _____

Date: _____

Have you ever wondered why there are so many different kinds of **bird beaks**? A bird's beak is most importantly used for feeding. Therefore, bird beaks have different shapes and sizes, based on a bird's diet and available food sources. An *adaptation* is a part of an animal's body or way that an animal behaves that helps it to survive. A bird's specialized beak helps it to survive.

Use the internet to research for an bird example for every kind of beak.

	Seed Eater: Cone shaped, strong beak used for cracking seeds Example: _____		(Drilling) Insect eater: strong beaks that form a sharp tip for pecking holes in trees to find insects which live under the bark Example: _____
	Insect eater: Thin, slender, pointed beaks used to pick insects off leaves, twigs, and bark Example: _____		Aquatic omnivore: fringed to strain plants, seeds, and small animals from mud and water Example: _____
	Meat eater: sharp, "hooked" beaks used to tear prey into pieces small enough to swallow Example: _____		Aquatic scooping carnivore: pouch-like beak used for scooping up fish Example: _____
	(Probing) Nectar eater: long, tubular bills that resemble straws, used to sip nectar from flowers Example: _____		Aquatic hunting carnivore: fish-eating birds have spear-like beaks designed for stabbing fish Example: _____

Answer:

1. Beaks are an important bird adaptation.

True

False

2. Beaks help birds when...

Breathing

feeding