
CAROLINA PARAKEET



GRADE: FIRST

SUBJECTS: ELA, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS

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CAROLINA PARAKEET

Section Two, First Vignette: The Story of the Carolina Parakeet

Catesby:

Once upon a time there lived a species of bird called the Carolina Parakeet!

What? You have not heard of this bird? That is because it disappeared from our land many years ago.

Let me begin by giving you with a brief description of the bird's physiognomy. You haven't heard of this word? It is spelled...fs... psh... fsy... my, that is a very long word, isn't it?

You see before you a lifelike model of the Carolina Parakeet. As you can see, this small green parrot was a very lovey bird and it was very agile too. The face was yellow and reddish-orange and the shoulders were yellow to the edges of the wings. The plumage, or feathers, were mostly green with light green underparts and yellow edges. The bird shares the zygodactyl feet of the parrot family.

And in 1793, it was first scientifically described by me! Mark Catesby

But now let us return to our story...

The bird lived for many, many years along the eastern US in as many as 28 states... as far north as New York, as far as south as the Gulf of Mexico, and as far west as Colorado. It lived in old-growth forests along rivers and in swamps. The birds flew about, and did some nesting, and made many baby parakeets. So many in fact, it is said that there were 2 parrots per mile and hundreds of thousands of birds in Florida alone! It was a good life, and she was quite content.

But then, one day, something happened. Strange ships from across the big ocean landed on her shores. Busy sailors got off the ships. The flocks of friendly, colorful and loud little parrots could hardly go unnoticed.

Some caged the young birds to keep as pets!

Some collected their prized, colorful feathers to adorn women's hats.

Some cut down the trees and there was nowhere left to nest.

But what made them so easy to hunt? Their flocking behavior compelled them to return immediately to the place where birds had just been killed. This led to even more being shot by hunters as the birds gathered about the wounded members of the flock.

The very last wild Carolina Parakeet was shot in 1934 to be displayed in a museum.

And so you see, that is why you have not heard of this bird for the Carolina Parakeet, was made to be extinct by the hands of people. Perhaps you do not know that word? Extinct means no more. Extinct means never again. Extinct means the end.

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AUTHOR: KELLY JAMES

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STANDARDS

ELA

Standard 12: Read independently and comprehend a variety of texts for the purposes of reading for enjoyment, acquiring new learning, and building stamina; reflect on and respond to increasingly complex text over time.

- 12.1 Engage in whole and small group reading with purpose and understanding.
- 12.2 Read independently for sustained periods of time.
- 12.3 Read and respond according to task and purpose to become self-directed, critical readers and thinkers.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Standard 2: Utilize the college and career skills of a geographer to apply map skills and draw conclusions about places in South Carolina and South Carolina's place in the surrounding region.

1.G.1 Identify various types of maps (e.g., maps of malls, roads, schools, zoos, and the world), map features (e.g., map title, map key/legend, and compass rose), and the purpose of maps (how they are tools in geographic inquiry).

SCIENCE

1.E.4B.2 Obtain and communicate information to explain ways natural resources can be conserved (such as reducing trash through reuse, recycling, or replanting trees).

VISUAL ARTS

I can use and combine materials, techniques and processes to make art.

MATERIALS

- informational text read-alouds (for teachers and students)
- white construction paper
- colored pencils
- index cards

INTRODUCTION

1. The teacher will ask the students to write or draw their interpretation of the word "extinct" on a sticky note. These notes will be presented on a vocabulary word chart.
2. Students will watch the dance [video](#) about Carolina Parakeets.

OBJECTIVE

The students will explain what the term "extinct" means and generate ideas of how to prevent extinction within their natural environment.

LESSON

1. Students will begin by watching a [video](#) about extinct and endangered species.
2. The students will reflect on their initial thoughts about what extinction means after watching the informational video and share with the class to quell any misconceptions about the topic.
3. Students will watch a [video](#) about cardinal directions and the teacher will model what a compass looks like and its purpose.
4. Students will watch a [video](#) about how to create an illustration of a parakeet.
5. The students will rewatch the portion of the Carolina Parakeet dance video to hear the descriptive colors of the parakeet. The teacher will add descriptive color words to the vocabulary chart.
6. The Students will include various colors to their illustrations based on the information and descriptive colors they learned in the video about the Carolina Parakeet.
7. After rewatching the dance video of Carolina Parakeet, the teacher will review the compass rose cardinal direction words.
8. Students will brainstorm four ways to prevent extinction and then insert them by pasting their individual conservation ideas to the illustration they created of the parakeet to show the compass rose map features.

CLOSURE

Students will present their artwork to their peers and share two conservation techniques they included in their artwork.

ASSESSMENT

In this informal assessment the teacher will observe students' completed artwork and presentation to evaluate student comprehension of informational facts, science standards, social studies standards. The teacher will ask students to share a specific north/south and/or east/west conservation fact to assess the students' understanding of the compass rose map tool.

RESOURCES

Cardinal Directions on Brainpop Jr, YouTube, 15 Oct. 2018,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dDOhSvZE-U&ab_channel=SecondGrade.

How To Draw A Budgie Parakeet, YouTube, 24 July 2018,
www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7MIdT_qwmQ&ab_channel=ArtforKidsHub.

Science BrainPOP Jr Conservation Extinct & Endangered Species, YouTube,
27 June 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OFXyaOHjLg&ab_channel=JeantheVictorXXVIII.