

Life Cycle: Birds



Life Cycle; Birds

NGSS Alignment

3-LS1-1

Core Concept

What is a life cycle?

A life cycle is a series of changes that all living things experience during their life.

Life cycles are often viewed in stages which include birth (or hatching), a growth stage in which an animal matures, the ability for reproduction in adulthood, and death.

Curriculum Objective

Students will identify the stages of a bird's life cycle along with familiarizing themselves with some Australian bird species.

Materials

For the teacher:

- (Optional) printed copies of **pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 7**

For the students:

- 1 printed copy of **pages 4, 5, 6, 8, 9** (per student)
- Scissors
- Writing/drawing materials

Curriculum Outline

Instructor Guide	2
Sight Words	3
Australia	4
Information page regarding Australia and some of its native bird species. Read aloud with class.	
Life Cycle of Birds	5
Information page regarding bird life cycle. Read aloud with class.	
Life Cycle Matching	6-7
Students will be able to cut out different bird life stages and arrange them in sequential order. Optional; done individually or in groups.	
Create a Bird Life Cycle	8
Students will be able to apply what they learned about life stages to create their own bird species life cycle.	
Let's Review Worksheet	9
In this post-visit activity, students will complete the sentences using the words provided in the word bank.	

At the Zoo:

Count how many bird species there are at the zoo. What life stage are they in? Check out the Australian Adventures exhibit at the Living Desert to spot the birds from this activity!

Instructor Guide

Pre-Lesson Preparation

Step 1: Read over the Life Cycle; Birds page.

Step 2: Go over the Sight Words with the students. Either display them via projector or write them on the board.

Step 3: As a group, discuss the concept of a life cycle, using birds as an example.

Activity 1: Info Pages 4&5: Australia, Life Cycle of Birds

This activity is designed to be read aloud together as a class.

Step 1: Give each student a copy of pages 4 and 5.

Step 2: Students will follow along as teacher reads both info pages 4 and 5 aloud.

Activity 2: Life Cycle Matching

This activity can be done individually or within groups.

Step 1: Give each student or group a copy of page 6 and scissors.

Step 2: Students will cut out the pictures and scatter them on desk randomly.

Step 3: Students will then practice identifying and arranging pictures in sequential order, by both species and life stages.

Step 4: Use the answer key to check results with class.

Activity 3: Create a Bird Life Cycle

Step 1: Give each student a copy of page 8 and writing/drawing materials.

Step 2: Students will now create their own bird species and draw the life stages in order.


Encourage creativity; have students add patterns, colors, and backgrounds!

Activity 4: Let's Review Worksheet

Step 1: Give each student a copy of page 9.

Step 2: Give students time to individually fill in the sentences using the word bank.

Step 3: As a class, go over the sentences and complete them using the word bank.



Encourage questions and involvement!




Encourage Creativity!!!





Sight Words

The following are sight words related to the material that can be introduced to students! With practice, students will be able to identify these words.



fledging	life cycle	adult
bird	species	chick
egg	life stages	hatchling

Australia

Information Page A

Fun Fact:

Australia is home to over 10,000 beaches!

Did you know Australia is the smallest continent in the world? Australia is widely diverse in its climate and landscapes. It features regions of hot deserts and thick rainforests.

Australia is home to many unique animals like the platypus, kangaroo, and koala.



Australian Bird Species



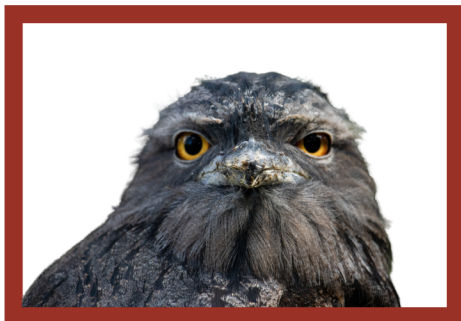
Laughing Kookaburra

Australia has many different species of birds. What exactly is a **species**? A species is a group of similar individuals that are able to reproduce.



Budgerigar (Budgie)

Let's use dogs and cats as an example. Dogs are the same species due to genetic similarity and because they can have puppies together, but they are a different species from cats.



Tawny Frogmouth

Life Cycle of Birds

Information Page B



Emus, like all birds, have three main **life stages**: egg, fledgling, and adult.

Fun Fact:

Emus are the second tallest living bird species.

This is an adult emu!

Life Stages:

- 1. Egg:** All **chicks** (a baby bird) start their life inside an egg.
- 2. Fledging:** After **hatching** (coming out of their egg), this is when a baby bird grows their feathers. Soon they'll be ready to leave the nest.
- 3. Adult:** A bird reaches adulthood when it is fully grown and can now start a family of their own.



At the Zoo:

This bird species is native to Australia! Check them out inside the Australian Adventures exhibit here at The Living Desert!



Once birds are fully grown they can lay their own eggs- the **life cycle** repeats!

This is an emu fledgling!



**Laughing
Kookaburra**



Budgerigar



**Laughing
Kookaburra**



Budgerigar



Emu



**Tawny
Frogmouth**



**Tawny
Frogmouth**



**Laughing
Kookaburra**



Emu



Emu



Budgerigar



**Tawny
Frogmouth**



Answer Key

Life Cycle Matching

In this activity, students will cut out images from page 6 and practice identifying and arranging pictures in sequential order, by both species and life stages.

This can be done individually or in groups.

1. Emu



2. Laughing Kookaburra



3. Tawny Frogmouth



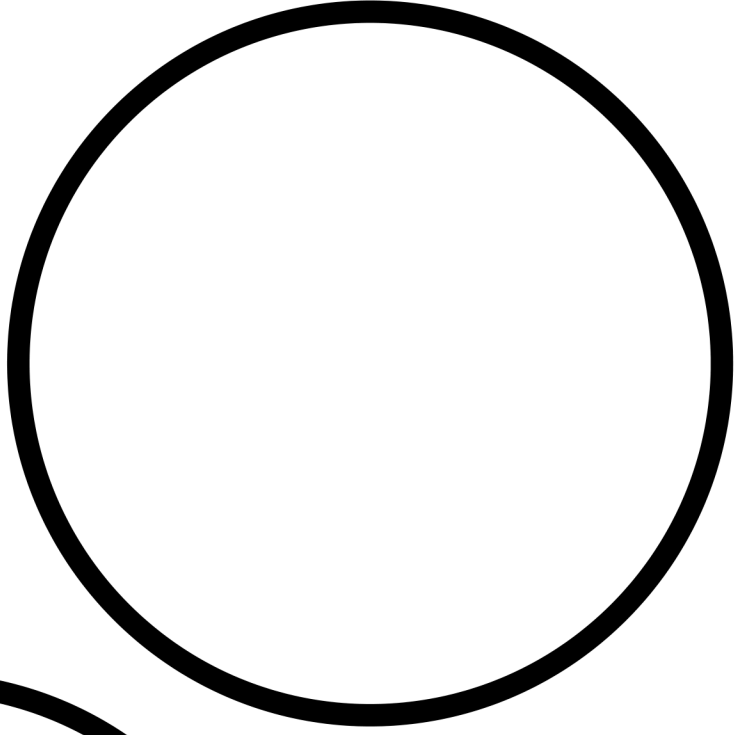
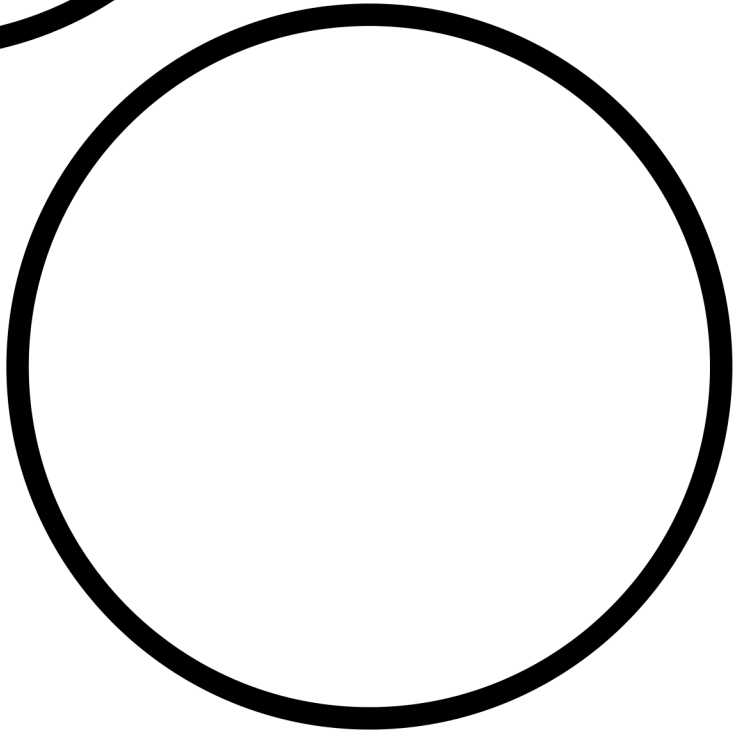
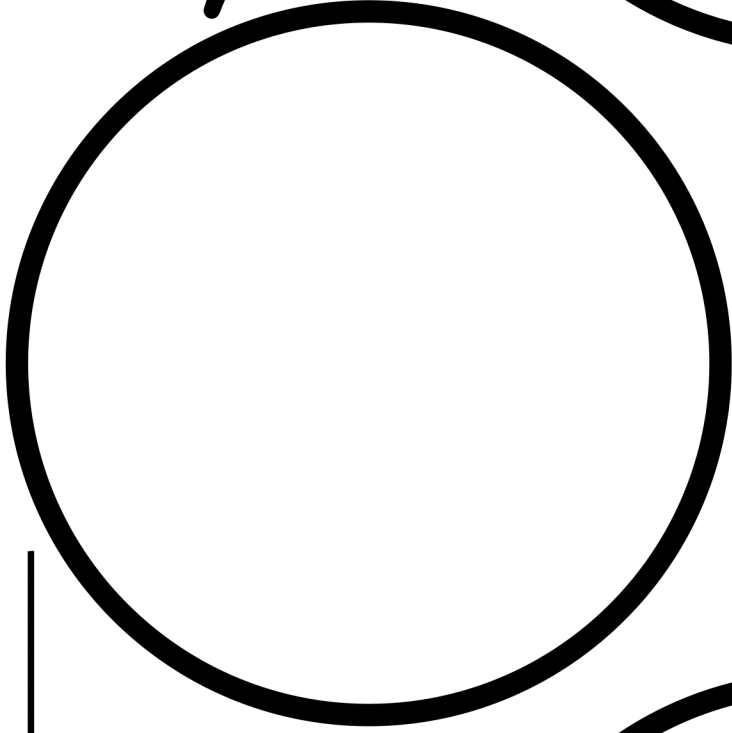
4. Budgerigar (Budgie)



Create Your Own Life Cycle!

Create your own bird species and draw the life stages in order.

Name: _____



Name of bird species: _____

Let's Review!

Name: _____

Word Bank

Egg

Chick

Emu

Hatching

Adult

Australia

Complete the sentences below using the word bank above.

You can do it!!!



1. The _____ is where all birds start their life.
2. An _____ is the second tallest living bird species.
3. A _____ is a baby bird.
4. _____ is when the chick comes out of their egg.
5. An _____ is a fully grown bird.
6. The birds you have seen today are all native species to _____.

