Eat Like a Bird

Today’s challenge is to collect “food” using different types of “beaks” and to find the food that’s easiest to pick up. Do you like worms? Just kidding!

What to Do

1. **Do Round 1 of the relay race.**
   Make sure your team has a cup and one beak. When you hear “Go!,” your team has five minutes to collect as many pieces of food as possible.

   But first, the rules:
   - Stand with your team behind the starting line. The person at the front of the line runs into the circle, picks up one piece of food using the beak, carries it back to the starting line, puts it into the cup, and hands the beak to the next person in line.
   - Only the beak can touch the food—no hands allowed!
   - Collect only one piece of food per turn.
   - If you drop your food, use your beak to pick it up again.
   - Remember, collecting more pieces is better. Don’t worry about the size of the food you get.

2. **Record Your data.** After round 1 is over, record in the table below how much food your team collected.

3. **Share results.** Compare how much food each team collected.

4. **Do Round 2.** You’ll be given a new kind of beak, but otherwise it’s the same as round 1.

5. **Do Round 3.** This time, you choose the beak you’ll use. Use the data on the group chart to help you figure out which beak will help you collect the most food.

Scorecard—How much did you collect?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Round 1 # Collected</th>
<th>Round 2 # Collected</th>
<th>Round 3 # Collected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marbles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lima beans</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kidney beans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennies</td>
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<td>Paperclips</td>
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<td>Paper balls</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rubber bands</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Chew on This

All dogs, cats, plants, bugs, and other creatures have features that improve their chances of surviving in particular habitats. For example, pelicans scoop fish from the ocean and woodpeckers find insects under tree bark. If a pelican were blown into a forest or a woodpecker blown out over the ocean, they would have to return to the habitat for which they are adapted or else risk starving.
Think about the features other animals have to help them find food and survive. Over the next week, watch any animal. Think: What helps them get the food they need? For example:

**Squirrels:** What foods do they eat? What body parts or behaviors help them get it?

**Fish:** Drop fish food into a tank. What helps the fish find and eat the food?

**Ants:** Closely follow an ant! How does it find food? Did you know that ants can carry 20 times their weight? Imagine if you could do the same!

* Do you like using tools in unusual ways? Race a friend to see who can pick up the most marbles using chopsticks. Get the Chop Sticks Pickup challenge from the ZOOM Web site at pbskids.org/zoom/activities.

My neighbors, the Birds, are coming over for lunch in about an hour. Better call for takeout. Hello? Hi, Ruff Ruffman here. I'm having some birds over for lunch. Sooo, I'd like egg rolls, Moo Goo Gai Pan, and . . . What? What do you mean birds don't eat Chinese food? Oh boy. This isn't good. This lunch is going to be a disaster! Hey, maybe you can help me. I need some help planning the menu and, well, eating like a bird.

Great! So I'll just order some of the finest dried beans and office supplies and serve those for lunch! Got it. What a bunch of odd ducks!

Watch FETCH! on PBS KIDS GO! (check local listings) and visit the FETCH! Web site at pbskids.org/fetch.