

Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Evolutionary “Art”** Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions:

One of the limitations of a species evolving to a new environment is that it can only evolve from the structure that exists when it came to the new environment (or what it was when the environment changed). Let’s imagine a population of birds that has been spread to a series of new islands, all with different features. I want you to “evolve” a bird based off this one, that would be well-suited for the new environment.

Here is how you are going to determine the environment:

- The oldest member of your group’s birthday season determines the environment colors and predators:

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Environment	Hay fields	Jungle	Sandy beach	Forest
Predator	Tigers	Snakes	No predators	Hawks

- The youngest member of your group’s birthday season determines what food source is available, and where that food source is.

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Food Source	Insects	Nuts	Insects	Fish
Food Location	In the air	On the ground	Cactus	Water

When you’re evolving your creature, you must remember that it can’t change too much. For instance, it can’t become 20 feet tall, or grow armor like a turtle. But it can change it’s color, the shape of its beak, or other features.

So, spend some time figuring out what your bird should look like, given where its new life will be, and then get to the drawing!

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Questions to be able to answer at the end of the activity:

Why did you pick the color that you did?

Would a predator be able to see it easily in your environment?

What problem could you see for your bird in the future?

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