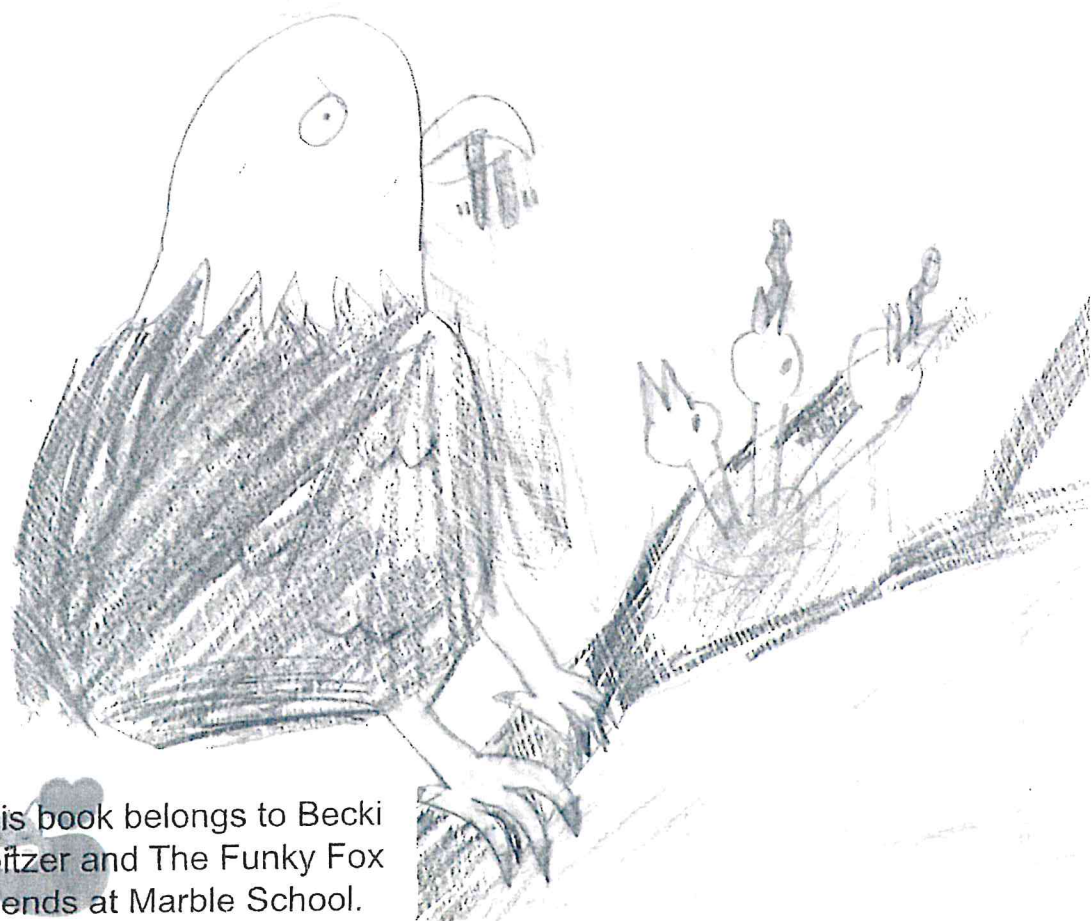


BALD EAGLE



BY

This book belongs to Becki
Spitzer and The Funky Fox
Friends at Marble School.

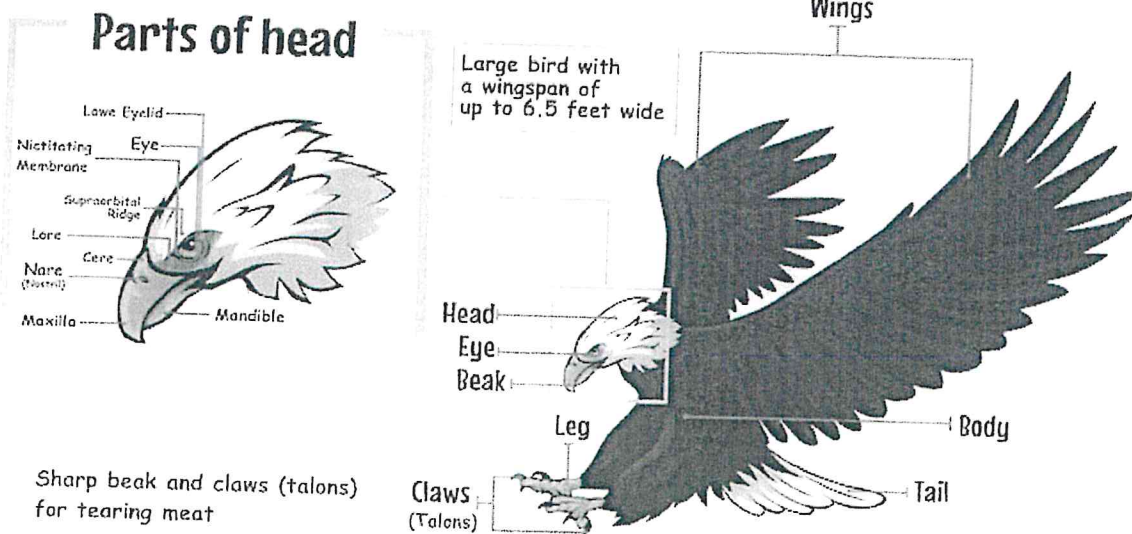
Introduction

The bald eagle is a large bird that lives in the lower 48 states and up the west coast to Alaska. The bald eagle was an endangered animal due to DDT and is making a come-back. The bald eagle is our national bird, which has an olive branch in its left foot for peace and arrows in its right foot for war. Read more to learn more about bald eagles.

Physical characteristics

The bald eagle has talons it uses to grab when swooping down to grab fish or small critters. The bald eagle has wings it uses to swoop down and just fly in general. The bald eagle has eyes it uses to look in the distance and find small critters or look deep into the water and find fish. The bald eagle has a beak it uses to chat and eat. A male bald eagle has a wing-span of 7 feet, is 30-35 inches tall and is 8-10 pounds. However, the female bald eagle is larger than the male and has an 8 foot wing-span, is 34-43 inches tall and is 10-14 pounds. The bald eagle has a white head so it looks bald even though it is not. The bald eagle has a brown torso and has a white tail.

Parts of a bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)



Picture from FreePik.com

Behavior characteristics

Bald eagles mate for life (if you don't know what that means, it means to mate and stay together). Bald eagles make a big nest, usually 4-10 feet deep and 3 feet tall but can be a little bigger. Bald eagles like to sit around in a chosen favorite place and look around. When having a nest, Bald eagles protect the nest. The mom bald eagle sits on the nest while the dad bald eagle gets food.



Picture from reddit

Diet

The bald eagle mostly eats fish, but bald eagles sometimes also eat small critters such as bunnies and squirrels. There was a danger to bald eagles when farmers started putting DDT on their crops so they wouldn't get eaten by bugs and other animals that would eat their crops. The DDT was washed to the sea and to rivers by rain. Fish got infected so when bald eagles ate the fish it infected them so when they laid eggs the shells were thin and would break early and not survive.

Life cycle

The life of a bald eagle all starts out with an egg. The mom bald eagle sits on the eggs for 35 days then the egg hatches and it is now a chick. After about 2 years the chick has grown to be a young bird and leaves the nest. When the young bald eagle grows to be an adult bald eagle and leaves to start its own life while the mom and dad stay together till they die. On its own, the newly adult bald eagle finds a mate and the two build a nest. If male, after mating the bald eagle the bald eagle gets food. If female, the bald eagle lays eggs in the nest and sits on them while the dad gets the food. When the 3-5 chicks grow to be young birds, they do not spend much time in the nest anymore. When the young bald eagles grow to be adults, they leave and start their own life. As an adult with no chicks for the winter, bald eagle and their mate live together and next spring they will have more chicks. The process continues for about 30 years.

Habitat

Bald eagles can live in many different places such as the mountains, the desert or in open forests as long as it is half a mile away from water or closer because of their main food source which is fish. During the summer bald eagles are found swooping above lakes catching fish, feeding chicks and protecting eggs. In the winter bald eagles are found in the lower 48 states and Canada flying north doing their migration to stay warm so that they don't get cold and freeze in the cold weathers of winter.

Conclusion

I made my bald eagle enclosure with a nesting platform so the eagles can have room to make a nest. I added fish-catching water so the eagles can catch fish. I added a tree so the eagles feel like they're in nature. For enrichment I made an origami water bomb to represent a paper maché ball filled with treats. I added a double fence, a human barrier and a net to keep the eagles in. I also added a door. The first of the two doors is a regular door then the second of the two doors is a screen door so if the eagle is close trying to get out the zookeeper can leave for a few minutes then come back. Why I added this is so the zookeeper can open the first door then close it before opening the second so if the eagle escapes the eagle is only in a small area so the eagle is easy to catch

Picture by Cornell lab

Works cited:

Animal icons bald eagles by Sheila Griffin Llanas



Do I d Eagle



This book belongs to Becki
Spitzer and The Funky Fox
Friends at Marble School.