



Investigation - Beaks as Tools

A bird uses its beak as a tool. A hummingbird could never eat a mouse because a hummingbird doesn't have the right kind of beak or "tool" to eat a mouse. A hummingbird's beak is better suited for sucking than tearing.

Find out how a bird uses its beak to survive by trying the tools or "beaks" listed below to see which tool works best with each different type of "food." Then match each "beak" with its "food" by drawing a line connecting the pair.

Tools or "Beaks"	"Food"
tweezers	Soda in a bottle (nectar in a flower)
pliers	rice in water
straw	seeds
strainer	hot dog (snake)
tongs	nuts
chopsticks	marshmallows thrown in air (insects)
coffee filter	gummy words in peanut butter (worms in mud.)

(Note to Teachers: Set up this experiment and allow the students to use each tool on the food. The aim is for the student to decide which tool works best for which food before filling in this worksheet.)