

Florida
State Parks

8

 JUNIOR
RANGER

BIRDS AND BILLS

Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

When you look at a bird, notice how the shape of its bill is designed. This makes it easier for the bird to find its particular type of food and is called adaptation. Other parts of birds like their legs, feet and wings are also adapted to help them survive.

Match the bird's bill to the way it finds its food. Draw a line from the picture of the bird to the description of how it feeds.

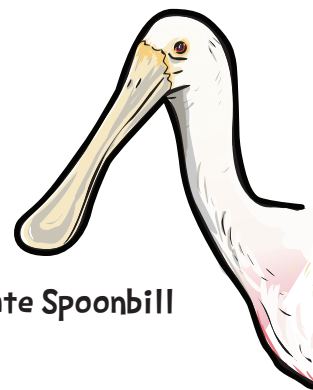
THE SPEARER: This wading bird hunts in shallow ponds, marshes and mud flats. It slowly walks in shallow water and uses its spear-like bill to pierce fish.

THE CRACKER: This songbird eats seeds so it needs a thick, cone-shaped bill to pick up seeds and easily crack them.

THE FLESH-EATER: This large bird of prey uses its powerful hooked bill to tear apart the animals which are the mainstay of its diet.

THE STRAINER: This wading bird feeds by moving its bill from side to side along the bottom of rivers, ponds and marsh lagoons to find small fish, shrimp and other crustaceans.

THE PROBER: This tiny bird uses its long narrow bill to probe deep into flowers to feed on nectar.


 Ruby-throated
Hummingbird


Roseate Spoonbill



American Bald Eagle



Great Blue Heron



Northern Cardinal



There is more this way!



NATURAL RESOURCES ACTIVITY

BIRDS AND BILLS

Record the details of a bird you saw today, then draw the bird in the environment below. Use these notes to help you research what kind of bird it is and find out how it uses its bill to eat!

1. Size of the Bird:

2. Colors of the Bird:

3. Shape of the Bird's Beak:

4. Actions of the Bird:

5. Other Notes:

OBSERVATION NOTES:

