

7.4.2 e2 Shake Your Tail Feathers Narrative

Time: 30-45 minutes	Anchor Phenomena: Males of certain species have different physical characteristics than females of the same species (think, peacocks, white campion, etc.)
Big Idea: Specific adaptations and structures affect the probability of successful reproduction and offspring survival.	
CCCs <u>Structure and function.</u> <u>patterns</u>	Practices Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information Constructing explanations

EPISODE SNAPSHOT: To emphasize that behaviors also play a role in reproductive success, the teacher shows students video clips of Birds of Paradise dancing. Students collect evidence by making observations during additional video clips.

GATHERING

A video showing Birds of Paradise dancing is shown. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bbLpZn4B7b0>
Students come up with three questions they have about the behavior (**Teacher hint: Answers will vary but lead students to these types of questions**)

- What is the purpose of the behavior?
- What other birds exhibit similar behaviors?
- Do other types of organisms exhibit similar behaviors?
- Why would this behavior be attractive to females?
- Are there any bird species where the female dances for the male?

Students share their questions and they are written on the board. Explain that many organisms have unique adaptations (structure) and/or behaviors (function) that affect their probability of reproducing. Pass out the worksheet and instruct students to record their observations during the video clips. (**Teacher note: If the internet is unavailable, printed articles could be used.**)

REASONING

Using the information from their observations, students will create an explanation as to why that animal uses that strategy.

COMMUNICATING

Students get in small groups and communicate their findings and explanations. After students have had an opportunity to do this, they send a scribe to the board to fill in information under 3 columns: Animal, Behavior, and explanation. Each group can be assigned or can choose one of the animals from the video. These findings should then be discussed as a class. (**Teacher hint: Emphasis should be on the behaviors leading to successful reproduction**)

Assessment: The formative assessment here is the classroom discussion after researching the topic.	Materials, resources, handouts, etc: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.4.2 e2 ShakeYourTailFeathers Student Sheet • Videos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bird of Paradise ○ Blue Manakins ○ Lyrebird ○ Bison ○ Alligator ○ Colored Lizards ○ Widow Birds
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- [Peacock](#)
- [Humpback Whales](#)
- [Peacock Spider](#)

- Articles:

- <http://birding.about.com/od/birdingbasics/a/courtshipbehavior.htm>
- <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/what-males-will-do-video-spider-courtship-dance/956/>