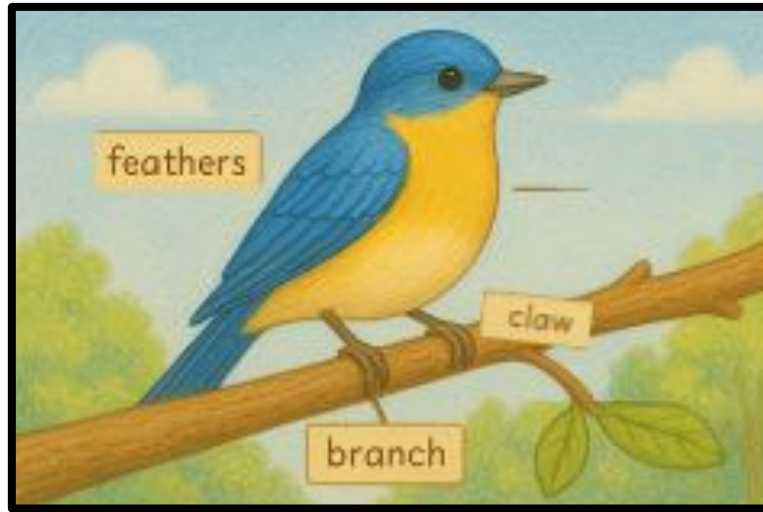


Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: aw

"This story focuses on the 'aw' sound as in 'claw.' Watch for words like 'claw,' 'draw,' and 'saw' as you read!"



What Is a Bird's Claw For?

A bird's claw is a special tool that helps it live and stay safe.

Birds use their claws to grab onto tree branches and keep from falling. Some birds, like eagles, have sharp claws to catch their food.

Claws also help birds scratch and clean their feathers. This keeps them neat and healthy.

So, the next time you see a bird, take a moment to look at its claws. You might be surprised by how strong and helpful they are!

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

claw

draw

saw

flaw

raw



Name: _____

What Is a Bird's Claw For?

1. What do birds use their claws for?

- A. To grab onto branches and keep from falling
- B. To play in the water
- C. To build houses
- D. To hide their food

2. Which bird has sharp claws for catching food?

- A. A penguin
- B. An eagle
- C. A duck
- D. A parrot

3. Fill in the blank:

Claws help birds scratch and clean their _____.

4. Why do you think it's important for birds to have strong claws?

5. If you could have claws like a bird, what would you use them for?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'aw' (as in "claw")

Genre: Nonfiction – Life Science

High-Frequency Words: the, and, to, their, they

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "We're reading to find 'aw' words that say the /aw/ sound, like in 'claw.'"
 2. Have you ever watched birds sitting on tree branches?
 3. Why do you think some birds have sharp claws and others do not?
-

During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids that 'aw' makes the /aw/ sound. Try that sound first when seeing this pattern.
 2. Watch for 'aw' words and stretch them out clearly.
 3. How do claws help birds stay healthy?
 4. Try reading the last sentence like you're making a fun discovery!
-

After Reading

1. Can you retell how birds use their claws?
 2. Why is it helpful for birds to keep their feathers clean?
 3. What would you look for if you were watching birds outside?
 4. Skill mastery prompt: "Find and underline 5 'aw' words in the story!"
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you're teaching a nature class!
-

Activity Idea

Draw a close-up of a bird's claw holding onto a tree branch. Label at least three parts using 'aw' words. Then write a short sentence about how claws help birds stay safe and healthy.

Coaching Tip

Encourage readers to spend time outside watching for birds and thinking about what they learned in the story!

