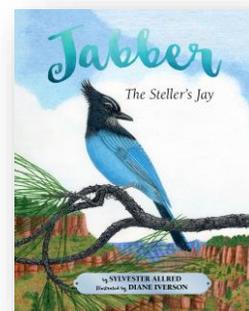


TEACHER'S GUIDE

Jabber the Steller's Jay

Written by Sylvester Allred, Illustrated by Diane Iverson



Reading/Writing/Language Arts

Read the book and answer the following questions:

1. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.1) Based on this story, in what season are baby Steller's jays born? Why do you think that is? What clues does the author give to support your theory as to why they are born when they are?
2. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.1) According to this story, what foods do Steller's jays eat? What are some other animals the author describes that compete with the jays for those same foods?
3. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.9) At the end of this book, the author includes short blurbs about animals and interesting natural features found in the story. Choose one of the animals (or the witch's broom), and find another book that gives more information about it. What new information did you learn from your second source?
4. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.5) This book is divided up into four seasons. Why do you think the author chose to organize the book with such clear divisions? How did this affect your understanding of Jabber's story?

Writing:

1. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.6, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.3) At one point in the story, Jabber flies with her flock to a grove of pinyon pines to find food and shelter. Rewrite that scene from the perspective of one of the pinyon jays. How does changing the perspective change the feeling of the scene? Would the pinyon jay feel differently about the Steller's jays' visit than Jabber did?
2. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.9) Steller's jays live mostly in the evergreen forests of North America. Do you have Steller's jays where you live? If so, do they live in the same kind of environment as Jabber does in this story? Write a story about Jabber or one of her bird friends living in your own area. Include facts from observation and research.
3. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.4) Choose one of the other animals mentioned in this book, and write your own four-seasons story about its first year of life. Research information in books and online to support your writing.

Vocabulary:

(CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.4) *Teacher note: Some of these terms may be above grade level for your group. Pre-teaching vocabulary in context should help students with comprehension. These terms fall under Tiers II and III for the Common Core State Standards.*

sandstone	venture	brilliantly
canyon	swallows	enormous
ponderosa	ruckus	gnarled
speckles	shrieking	towering
caterpillars	jagged	
refreshing	thunderclaps	

1. Assign each term to a pair of students. Have student pairs act out the term or design a visual display to teach the word to their classmates.
2. Find a *synonym* for each word on the list. A synonym is a word that has the same—or nearly the same—meaning as another word.

3. *Jabber the Steller's Jay* Word Find:

Find these words from *Jabber the Steller's Jay*. They are hidden forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally.

k q m q k w c i r u c k u s b
p z q x t t o w e r i n g q v
t h u n d e r c l a p s u f j
c a t e r p i l l a r s f g d
j a g g e d s e n o r m o u s
m z m s r p y a t b r f s i v
r e f r e s h i n g g y w q e
g n a r l e d f b d x b a c n
i e f v n j j y g d s e l b t
s p e c k l e s i e r t l c u
h p v y h v l r a e r d o a r
x k s z b q w j n p z r w n e
h p w p o n d e r o s a s y e
x m b r i l l i a n t l y o j
s h r i e k i n g b k j t n h

sandstone
canyon
ponderosa
speckles
caterpillars
refreshing
venture
swallows
ruckus
shrieking
jagged
thunderclaps
brilliantly
enormous
gnarled
towering

Science/Natural History/Geography

(See also the questions in the reading and writing sections.)

Research the answers to these questions in your library or online:

1. What is the range of the Steller's jay? Create a map to show where they live. Do they migrate or stay in the same place year-round? Find more information about Steller's jays in books or online to support your map.
2. This story shows several instances where animals compete for the same foods. What can happen when too many animals with the same diet live in the same area? Research an example of this happening, and write a clear paragraph on what you've learned. Cite sources for your information.

Math

Grade 1: (CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.1.OA.A.1)

Jabber hid acorns in the ground under the tree to save for later. On Monday, she buried 5 acorns. On Tuesday, she buried 3 acorns, and on Wednesday, she stole a huge stash from the tassel-eared squirrel and buried 11 acorns under the tree. How many acorns did Jabber bury in all three days combined? Draw a picture to help you find the answer.

Grade 2: (CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.NBT.A.4)

Yesterday, Jabber collected 603 pine seeds to eat. (Hey, they're small!) Today, she collected 497 pine seeds. On which day did she collect more? Write a word sentence comparing the two days' amounts using $>$, $=$, or $<$. Explain your answer.

Grade 3: (CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.NF.A.1)

Jabber collected 20 acorns one sunny afternoon, and she decided to just eat $\frac{1}{2}$ of them and save the rest in her stash for tomorrow. How many acorns does Jabber get to eat today?

k q m q k w c i r u c k u s b
p z q x t t o w e r i n g q v
t h u n d e r c l a p s u f j
c a t e r p i l l a r s f g d
j a g g e d s e n o r m o u s
m z m s r p y a t b r f s i v
r e f r e s h i n g g y w q e
g n a r l e d f b d x b a c n
i e f v n j j y g d s e l b t
s p e c k l e s i e r t l c u
h p v y h v l r a e r d o a r
x k s z b q w j n p z r w n e
h p w p o n d e r o s a s y e
x m b r i l l i a n t l y o j
s h r i e k i n g b k j t n h