

Vincent Long
12/18/18
Non-fiction narrative

Red-Tailed Hawk

Red Tailed Hawk gazed at the brilliant light of noon feeling the glittering sun beams hit her self lightly. Right when she was perched on her tree branch she looked straight at the long California forest below her and the mountains circling around the greens. A *Buteo Jamaicensis* is one of the most fierce predatory birds on the west of North America. While the Red Tailed Hawk was seeking for prey among the entire forest she heard a small peck along with an egg tooth through the crack of an egg.

Next, out came a hatchling! Near average, 4 more small birds came out of their eggs without any sight. A female hawk knows that she needs to feed the starving hawks fast. She made warm shelter in the nest for the small hatchlings before her small journey. She had stalled for the father to come to keep the hatchlings safe from other predators. He arrived, so she sped out of the nest and into the dangerous forest. With her

outrageously good eyesight, she could spot a small reptile such as a lizard from a distance. Her rich brown feathers help it soar through the sky along with its short stubby tail and long rounded wings.

As a top predator, she is always hidden from her prey of rodents, small mammals, other birds, and reptiles. At this point, she and her hatchlings were growing hungry. She dove down and into the green trees where a large garter snake that was sunbathing in between two rocks right below the Red Tailed Hawk. Right away, the snake had reacted quickly knowing the dangers of his predator. The snake kept running and so did the bird. Right before the snake scurried under a boulder near the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Red Tailed Hawk snatched it with her sharp pointed talons.

Throughout the day, the fierce predator soared above the forest, she saw her nest, filled with hatchlings soon to be nestlings. Right as the mother sets down in the nest, the little ones started to peep for food. The mature adult bird sets down the dead snake for the little hatchlings to feed on continuously. As the top predator of the forest gazed at her small flightless nestlings, she knew that the mother and father would let their fledglings go at six weeks old.

Red Tailed Hawk sat on its perch with a stomach full of reptiles staring at the young nestlings in the nest. A top predator such as a Red Tailed Hawk of an ecosystem is a

very important factor of a habitat. The Red tailed hawk was now in her safe environment out on her tree looking at the orange sundown with the moon about to take over the sky.

Red Tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*

Vincent Long

Hawks such as the Red Tailed hawk are sometimes called raptors. If a Red Tailed Hawk is hunting and sees another birds with food, he will steal food from the other raptor, from mid-air. They're one of the most widely distributed hawks in all of the Americas. A Red Tailed Hawk is usually at the top of the terrestrial food chain of an ecosystem. The large hawks usually live from 10-15 years at average in the wild.

Red Tailed Hawk
Fierce, Rich Brown Feathers
Soaring, Watching, Hunting
A Top Predator of the Wild
Bird

Identification: Large broad hawk, with rich brown feathers and a streaked belly.
Size: 18-26 inches. Females are slightly larger than males.

Habitat: Migrate to far North America from North/Central America. Red Tailed Hawks mostly occupy open forest areas with their nests.

Feeding: Usually kills prey with talons such as small mammals, rodents, rabbits, birds and reptiles.

Physical Adaptations: Red Tailed Hawks have specific adaptations to help them survive. They have crazy eyesight to catch prey from crazy heights. Their eyes are able to tell differences between color. Red Tailed Hawks have fierce talons to tear and rip apart meat for food.

Behavioral Adaptations: Main behaviors such as sitting on a perch or soaring above the forest are very mellow. With an exception for hunting.





Rubric to Evaluate Student Drawing

Name: Vincent Period: 4

Check the items that will be graded on your sketching assignment. Each is worth 5 points on a scale 0-5 (0=no evidence to 5=exceeds expectations).
Total points for assignment: 10

IDENTIFY YOUR SKETCH

- Name of item (identify with correct name and spelling)
- Date (Day and Date)
- Time of day (hour, minute AM or PM)
- Place (in classroom or other location)
- Lighting conditions (artificial inside light or natural from window or outside light)
- Make all of the above easy to find, correctly spelled and neat.

SKETCH

- Try for likeness of the object (looks very much like it).
- Show details of parts (completeness: including observation of smaller parts).
- Use color (used various colored pencils, included shades and depth).
- Include the true habitat in the background (real or researched and created).
- Make all the above easy to view. Not too small or large. Centered.

LIST and WRITE

- Label of all the parts that are sketched, easy to identify with arrows.
- Indicate the measurement in Metric and Standard. Height, width, weight if possible.
- Indicate any part of the sketch that is life-sized "Life-sized" If magnified, indicate the strength of magnification
- Make notes about the color (does it change during the sketch? Etc.)
- Make notes and descriptions of unusual things you observed.
- Make notes about connections you made about the object to other things in the sketch or outside.
- Write questions you have about the object.
- All of the above are easy to find and neatly written with correct grammar.



Scientific Drawings Checklist

You don't have to be an artist to create an awesome scientific drawing! Your observations, thoroughness, and completeness are the factors which make your scientific drawing complete and realistic!

Make Sure You Include The Following Items in Your Drawing

IDENTIFICATION OF SKETCH

- Name of Item and Clear Title (Create a clear title with correct spelling!)
- Date (Day of the week, date, and year)
- Time of Day (Hour, minute, AM/PM)
- Location of Drawing (Classroom Number, Science Lab, etc.)

SKETCH

- Likeness of Object (Make your drawing similar looking to the actual object or scene)
- Details, Details, Details!!! (Use lots of details! Include both large and small details for all parts of the drawing)
- Use Colour (If appropriate!)
- Include Background (If there are objects in the background that are important to the drawing, you need to include those too)
- Size (Make sure your drawing is easy to view! Not too small, not too large, make good use of the size of your page!)
- Drawn on white, unlined, unwrinkled, clean paper
- Use pencil! No pen on scientific drawings! Use an eraser if you need one!

LIST AND WRITE

- Label all essential parts of the sketch. This is very important! Clear labels with lines drawn with a ruler and labels on the right hand side whenever it's possible!
- Indicate measurement if necessary
- Indicate magnification if necessary
- Make notes about additional changes or information if you need them