



## **The Desert Speaks**

*#705 Birds of Passage*  
Teacher Information Sheet

### Program Description

Millions of birds follow their instincts each year and migrate from Colorado's Rocky Mountains to Guadalajara, Mexico, dealing with a wide range of geographical extremes along the way. This program looks at recent studies on migratory birds, and examines the resources of these winged frequent flyers in both their winter and summer home ranges.

### Teaching Tips

1. Discuss vocabulary words
2. Introduce the episode by giving a brief summary of the program and telling students what information you would like for them to gain from viewing the program.
3. Allow time at the conclusion of the program for discussion and the completion of the *Student Viewing Sheet*.
4. Investigate the related web sites listed below.

### Vocabulary Words

- migrate to move from one region or climate to another
- migratory corridor the path birds, or other animals, take when migrating from one region to another

### Related Web Sites

#### ***Division of Migratory Bird Management***

A collection of web site links geared for student and teacher use.

**<http://www.fws.gov/~r9mbmo/edulinks.html>**

#### ***Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center***

A collection of migratory bird links and fact sheets.

Includes a Fact Sheet on Western Rivers: Magnets for Migrants

**<http://www.si.edu/smbc/>**

#### ***Encarta Online Encyclopedia Animal Migration***

**<http://encarta.msn.com/index/conciseindex/17/01767000.htm?z=1&pg=2&br=1>**

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### Student Viewing Sheet

Use information in the video to answer the following questions.

1. Why do some birds migrate? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Researchers gather information on migratory birds by studying them at both \_\_\_\_\_ of their migratory trail.
3. What do bird researchers use to catch the birds? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Many birds migrate south to Jalisco, Mexico, name some of the places they come from? \_\_\_\_\_
5. As winter days shorten, \_\_\_\_\_ in the birds body tell the bird when it is time to migrate.
6. Researchers place small bands on birds to help them keep track of them, but they also take a pair of \_\_\_\_\_ to study.
7. The San Pedro River serves as a migratory corridor for a lot of birds traveling at night. These birds may fly as much as \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ miles each night.
8. As birds migrate from one place to another, they have to make rest stops along the way. What kinds of things do the rest stops need to provide? \_\_\_\_\_



Find the following  
*Migratory Birds* in the  
Word Search Puzzle:

- Hummingbirds
- Warblers
- Robins
- Flycatchers
- Gray Hawks
- Cuckoos

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## *Birds of Passage*

### Answer Key

#### **Short Answers**

1. to go to a more comfortable climate
2. ends
3. mist nets
4. Canada, Northern California, Alaska, Colorado
5. hormones
6. tail feathers
7. 150 - 200 miles
8. shelter, food and water