

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: March**  
**Lesson 5: Birds**  
**Paper Collage**

**Objective:** To create a bird collage using paper and scissors

**Technique:** Drawing, cutting and gluing

**Set-up: (before lesson starts, docent and aides)**

- 8 ½ x 11 sheet blue cardstock for background
- Patterned paper scraps (6 patterns, pre-selected)
- Pencil
- Glue
- Scissors

**Visuals:**

- Pictures of Audobon birds
- Sample artwork

**Teaching the lesson: (1 hour, total)**

Give your aides a brief summary of the lesson

Introduce yourself and your aides

John James Audobon was born in 1785 in Saint Dominique (now Haiti). Throughout his childhood, he had an interest in birds & nature; and a hobby was drawing. Show pictures of Audobon birds. His bird paintings showed a new approach because he was a keen observer of his subjects—watching how birds move, interact, and behave. His bird paintings depicted realistic birds. Today you will create a bird of your own design. Show sample artwork.

1. Draw and Cut (20 min)
  - A bird collage is built by layering pieces for the body, head, wings, and tail; and then adding detail.
  - Designs can be free-hand cut, or drawn with pencil on the back of the patterned paper
  - Create the bird; body, head, wings, tail, and feet
  - Cut out pieces
  - Create tree; branches, trunk, leaves, flowers, etc.
  - Cut out pieces
2. Place and Glue (35 min)
  - Decide on placement of bird on paper (direction, size, wings) and groupings of leaves, flowers, etc.

- Work from large cut-out shapes to small (bird, branch)
- Glue on background paper
- Add supporting details, glue

3. Complete and Share (5 min)

- Cut-out and glue any additional details to finish composition (use bag of scrap paper if needed)
- Sign name
- Give a title
- Share

**Clean-up: (after lesson ends, docent and aides)**

Close the lesson, clean up the classroom

Separate paper scraps (recycle usable remnants, toss scraps)

Cap glue

Collect scissors

Return all materials to bin

Return all materials to the art closet

Ask teacher where to store artwork

Arrange time with teacher to display artwork



The White-Throated Finch    Maria's Woodpecker



The Worm-Eating Swamp-Warbler

Pictures of Audobon Birds



Sample artwork