



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

---

## Teacher Answer Key

---

### Vocabulary Organizer *Answer Key*

Adaptation: *Hummingbirds developed wings and an ability to hover in order to eat nectar from flowers*

Competition: *Birds with differently colored feathers compete to protect their territory*

Environment: *The only food source for the birds was the nectar in flowers, causing them to evolve to suit that food source.*

Natural Selection: *Hummingbirds became smaller and smaller so they could move faster*

Variation: *In the same species, different bills developed for different types of flowers*

---

### Rufous Hummingbird Organizer *Answer Key*

1. Describe the migration route of the Rufous Hummingbird:

*Begins in coastal Alaska, south to the Rockies and to the mountains of Mexico for the winter. In the spring they go back through Western California and to Southwest Canada for the summer.*

1a. How far do the birds travel?

*Over 5,000 miles round trip.*

2. Why is the Rufous like a GPS system?

*Accurate navigation abilities, storing lots of information about the route, always come back to the same place.*

3. What information is used to track the Rufous Hummingbirds?

*Gender, size/weight, and feather color.*

4. How do young birds know the migration route?

*It is genetically programmed.*

4a. What adaptations to the trip do they make?

*They will adjust their trip for late blooming flowers or for yearly variations in their food supply.*



**NATURE**<sup>®</sup>

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. How does Dr. Calder plan to gather more information about the Rufous Hummingbirds?

*Using new technology, he plans to gather more genetic information from feather and tissue samples.*



**NATURE**<sup>®</sup>

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Beak Characteristics Organizer *Answer Key***

	<b>First Thoughts</b>	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Revised Answers</b>
<b>1. Brown Creeper</b>	<i>(Answers will vary)</i>	<i>(Answers will vary)</i>	<i>To probe under bark for insects</i>
<b>2. Eagle</b>			<i>Tearing flesh</i>
<b>3. Curlew</b>			<i>Probing shoreline for food trapped in sediments</i>
<b>4. Spoonbill</b>			<i>Shoveling through shallow waters for food</i>
<b>5. Flamingo</b>			<i>Separating mud and silt to find food</i>
<b>6. Skimmer</b>			<i>Lower jaw scoops fish from water</i>
<b>7. Hummingbird</b>			<i>Beak is used like a straw in flowers</i>
<b>8. Heron</b>			<i>Spearing fish in the water</i>
<b>9. Woodpecker</b>			<i>Drill into tree bark for insects</i>
<b>10. Cardinal</b>			<i>Nut cracker</i>
<b>11. Duck</b>			<i>Used as a sieve to catch fish and drain water</i>
<b>12. Pelican</b>			<i>Pouch for holding fish caught underwater</i>