



## Prehistoric Life Guided Tour Post-Visit: Archaeopteryx Flyers

Grade	Suggested Time	NGSS Connections
3-5	60 minutes	<p><b>3-LS4-2:</b> Use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.</p> <p><b>4-LS1-1:</b> Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, and reproduction.</p>

### Learning Outcome

Students will be able to further understand the life of Archaeopteryx and how it serves as a link between dinosaurs and birds.

### Materials Needed

Archaeopteryx Flyer cutout, questions, and instructions (included in this lesson)

Single hole puncher

Ribbon

Glue

Tape

Straws/Coffee stirrers

### Background and Key Vocabulary

Archaeopteryx is a key fossil in understanding dinosaurs. It lived around 150 million years ago during the Jurassic Period. Archaeopteryx had small, pointy teeth, meaning that it was carnivorous, a meat-eater. First found in Solnhofen, Germany, many of the remains found of this prehistoric creature contain imprints of feathers around its wing and tail. This evidence suggests that Archaeopteryx is the missing link between dinosaurs and the birds we know today.

### Activity

1. Begin by asking the class what they remember about Archaeopteryx. If there are some still unsure, read to the class the “Background and Key Vocabulary” section with wording appropriate to their age.
2. Have students work through the questions before they begin creating their Flyer.
3. Explain to the class that they are going to re-create Archaeopteryx.
4. Continue by beginning the craft, letting each student create their own Archaeopteryx Flyer.

Name:

Date:

## Archaeopteryx Questions

1. Archaeopteryx is the missing link between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Archaeopteryx lived during the....
  - a. Jurassic Period
  - b. Dinosaur Period
  - c. Cretaceous Period
  - d. Triassic Period
3. There are dinosaurs alive today. True OR False ?
4. What kind of food did Archaeopteryx eat? How do we know this?

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5. What part of the fossil of Archaeopteryx tells us that this prehistoric creature was able to fly?

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## Archaeopteryx Flyer Instructions

Color your Archaeopteryx and cut it out Fold it in half along the dotted line to crease.

Use a hole punch to punch a hole as shown.



Tape a piece of ribbon approximately 2 feet long and  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. wide to the feet.



Glue the head and feet together—make sure that you don't glue the wings together!



Cut a piece of string approximately 2 feet long. Tie one end of it through the hole.



Open the wings and tape a straw approximately 5.5 in. (plastic coffee stirrers work well for this) to the top of them.



To make your Archaeopteryx fly, hold onto the string and run with the Archaeopteryx flyer traveling behind you.

