



About The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy is a charitable organization that was founded in Virginia in 1951. Its mission is to “conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.” The organization has over one million members and works in 35 countries, as well as all of the 50 states, protecting habitats ranging from grasslands to coral reefs.

Eagle Tracking at Follensby Pond

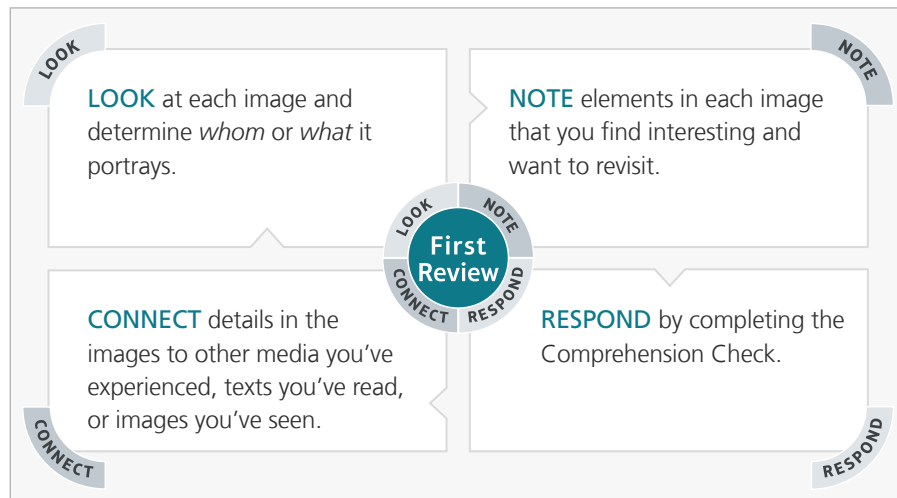
Media Vocabulary

These words will be useful to you as you view, analyze, and discuss photography.

documentary photography: photographs taken with the main purpose of recording a place, an event, or a person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary photography aims to portray subjects objectively, or in a way that is based on facts and not influenced by feelings and opinions. Documentary photos may evoke feelings in viewers based on the subject matter.
vantage point: place where the photographer positions the camera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A photographer may use a particular vantage point in order to capture the subject in a particular position or in a certain light. Different vantage points can cause the same subject to be seen differently by the viewer.
monochrome: photos that are black and white	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In early photography, all photographs were monochrome. Although color photography has existed for decades, photographers still use monochrome to create specific artistic effects.

First Review MEDIA: ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Study each photograph and its caption using these strategies.



STANDARDS

Reading Informational Text
By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6–8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Language

Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

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BACKGROUND

The bald eagle has been a national symbol of the United States since 1782. But by the mid-1900s, decades of habitat destruction, hunting, and the use of pesticides, such as DDT, had brought the bald eagle population within danger of extinction. Since then, social awareness and government protections have helped the bald eagle population make great steps toward recovery.



PHOTO 1: Bald eagles had been absent from Adirondack skies for nearly three decades before they were reintroduced at Follensby Pond in the 1980s.

NOTES



PHOTO 2: In 1981, Endangered Species Unit leader Peter Nye of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) traveled to Alaska to collect eaglets to release at Follensby Pond. At the time, Alaska was one of the few states in the nation with a healthy bald eagle population.

NOTES



PHOTO 3: The eaglets traveled by boat across Alaska's open waters to meet an airplane that was waiting to take them to the continental United States.

NOTES



PHOTO 4: NYSDEC's Endangered Species Unit rushed the birds to their new home at Follensby Pond.

NOTES



PHOTO 5: Follensby Pond was chosen as the perfect site for this eagle restoration project because of its habitat, abundant food sources, and isolation.

NOTES




PHOTO 6: Today, bald eagles can be seen near many Adirondack lakes as a result of the efforts of NYSDEC's Endangered Species Unit. In 1975, prior to restoration efforts, only one pair of eagles remained in New York. As of 2008, more than 145 pairs of eagles are thriving.

NOTES

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Comprehension Check

Complete the following items after you finish your first review. Review and clarify details with your group.

1. According to the information in the captions, how long were bald eagles missing from the Adirondacks?
2. Where did conservationists collect eaglets for eventual release in New York State?
3. How did the eaglets travel?
4. According to the information in the captions, what is the result of the restoration project?
5.  **Notebook** Confirm your understanding of the selection by writing a brief summary of the eagle restoration project at Follensby Pond.



EAGLE TRACKING AT
FOLLENSBY POND


Close Review

With your group, revisit the selection and your first-review notes. Jot down any new observations that seem important. What **questions** do you have? What can you **conclude**?



Analyze the Media

 **Notebook** Complete the activities.

- 1. Present and Discuss** Choose the photo and caption that you found most interesting or informative. Share your choice with the group, and discuss why you chose it. Explain what you noticed in the photo and caption, what questions it raised for you, and what conclusions you reached about it.
- 2. Review and Synthesize** With your group, review the photo gallery. How do the captions add meaning to the photographs? Would the photographs be less effective without the captions? Why or why not?
- 3.  Notebook Essential Question: *What effects do people have on the environment?*** How did this photo gallery contribute to your understanding of the ways in which people affect the environment?

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Media Vocabulary

documentary photography vantage point monochrome

Confirm your understanding of the vocabulary words by answering these questions.

1. Do you think the photo gallery effectively conveys information about the eagle restoration project at Follensby Pond?
2. Describe the vantage point of each photograph, and explain how the vantage point affects the subject.
3. How do the monochrome photographs differ from the color photographs?

STANDARDS

Speaking and Listening

Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats and explain how the ideas clarify a topic, text, or issue under study.

Language

Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Research

Assignment

Work in your group to research and write a short **research paper** on one of the following topics:

- ☐ eagle restoration and tracking programs in other states
- ☐ restoration and tracking programs for other endangered species
- ☐ the origins and history of the Endangered Species Act

In your paper, highlight the relationship between the topic you chose to research and the photo gallery, "Eagle Tracking at Follensby Pond."


Formulate a Research Question Work with your group to formulate a research question that will guide your research process. An effective research question should be specific and manageable, and the purpose of your paper will be to answer this question. If you do not limit the scope of your research question, you will find it difficult to address the question fully. Consider the following examples:

Broad Research Question: How do people affect the environment?

Specific Research Question: How does coal mining affect rivers and streams?

Organize Your Information Take notes from each research source to answer your research question. Include only information that is meaningfully related to your topic. Use your notes to organize an outline for your research paper. Consider the following methods of organization:

- **chronological order:** sequencing information about events in the order in which they occur
- **comparison and contrast:** analyzing and explaining the similarities and differences between two or more related subjects
- **cause and effect:** analyzing and explaining reasons or results for something that happens

 **Notebook** Use a chart such as the one shown to organize information for your research paper.

What is our research question?	
What are at least three relevant, reliable print or digital sources we can use?	
What organizational structure will we use to present the information?	

EVIDENCE LOG

Before moving on to a new selection, go to your Evidence Log and record what you learned from "Eagle Tracking at Follensby Pond."

STANDARDS

Writing

• Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

- a. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/ contrast, and cause/ effect; include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- b. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.

• Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

• Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.