

## **Bald Eagle: An American Symbol**

**Grade Level Range:** PK3-Kindergarten

**Content Areas Addressed:** Social Studies

**Group Size:** Whole Class

**Duration:** 45 minutes

**Key Vocabulary:** Bald Eagle, Symbol, Money, Freedom

**Materials Needed:** Berry College Eagle Cam, *The Bald Eagle* by Alison and Stephen Eldridge, construction paper, scissors, markers, glue

### **Lesson Objective:**

As an outcome from this lesson students will:

1. Be able to tell what the bald eagle stands for as an American symbol.
2. Be able to answer questions about the book, *The Bald Eagle* by Alison and Stephen Eldridge.

### **Methods:**

Reading a book on the topic.

### **Procedures:**

1. Read *The Bald Eagle* to students.
2. Have students answer the following questions
  - a. What does the bald eagle represent?
  - b. Where can you see symbols of the bald eagle?
  - c. Where can you find bald eagles?
3. Show the students the Berry College Eagle Cam as a real world example.
4. Have students create bald eagle art using construction paper and their hands and feet (See example in resources).

### **Evaluation Alternatives:**

When students have finished creating their bald eagle art, have them orally tell you about what the bald eagle represents.

### **Background:**

The bald eagle became a national symbol in 1782 when Congress decided it would be represented on the Great Seal of the United States. It was chosen because it represents strength, courage, and freedom and because it is the only eagle native to North America. Now the bald eagle is also the national bird and the national animal. Aside from being represented on the Great Seal, the bald Eagle is on the Seal of the President of the United States, the presidential flag, and in the logos of many federally run agencies such as the CIA and the Air Force. The bald eagle is also represented on many different American coins and bills. It is on the quarter, half dollar, various dollar coins, the one dollar bill, the five dollar bill, and the twenty dollar bill.

**Standards Addressed:**

**SSKH2:** The student will identify important American symbols and explain their meaning.

b. The bald eagle

**CLL5 -** The child will acquire meaning from a variety of materials read to him/her.

**CLL5.3c** Answers questions about a story.

**Resources:**



*The Bald Eagle* by Alison and Stephen Eldridge

<http://berry.edu/eaglecam/>