

Keas and Albatrosses

Approach: One to one interview

Level: Year 8 only

Resources: 2 postcards, one showing a kea, one showing an albatross and chick.

Questions/instructions

In this activity you will be looking at photographs of two birds so that you can think about their similarities and differences.

Name the birds as you show the students the pictures. This is a photograph of a kea, and this is an albatross. Before I ask you some questions have a careful look at the two pictures.

Leave time for the students to look.

1. First of all, can you explain to me why we call these creatures 'birds'?
How do we know they are birds and not some other type of animal?

What special features do birds have that make them different from animals that are not birds?

2. Now think about where each bird lives, and how it lives. First of all, can you tell me what would be **different** about **where** each bird lives?

Now, can you tell me what would be different about the way each bird lives because of where it lives?

Give student the photograph of the kea.

3. Let's look at the kea.
What is special about this bird that helps it survive and live in its natural surroundings?

Give student the photograph of the albatross.

Now let's look at the albatross. Tell me what is special about this bird that helps it survive and live in its natural surroundings?

5. This time look carefully at their beaks.
Describe to me the differences in their beaks?

Why do you think their beaks are different?

How does a kea's beak help it to live and survive?

How does an albatross's beak help it to live and survive?

% responses

y8

Special features of birds

feathers (unique)	69
wings	70
beak	79
eggs	31

Discussion of habitats of the two birds

excellent	9
very good	28
moderate	39
poor	24

Discussion of special survival features of the two birds

excellent	14
very good	29
moderate	32
poor	25

Discussion of form and use of beaks

excellent	13
very good	29
moderate	39
poor	19