



Bird Beak Experiment



Name: _____

Date: _____

Part 1 - Make Predictions

A prediction is a guess based on what you think will happen. Listed in the left column are all the “bird beaks”. Each food item is listed across the top. Place an “X” in the box under the food item that you predict will be the EASIEST to grab by each of the beaks.

| | Marbles | Uncooked macaroni | Rubber Bands | Gummy Worms | Crayons |
|-------------|---------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Tablespoon | | | | | |
| Salad Tongs | | | | | |
| Clothespin | | | | | |
| Toothpick | | | | | |
| Pliers | | | | | |

Part 2 - Collect Data

You will be given a “beak”. You will have 15 seconds for each of the food items to try to get as many pieces of food as you can. At the end of the 15 seconds, count how many pieces you got and write that number in the proper square on the grid below.

| | Marbles | Uncooked macaroni | Rubber Bands | Gummy Worms | Crayons |
|-------------------|---------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| My beak: _____ | | | | | |

Part 3 - Class Data

Collecting data is important when trying to understand how or why something works the way it does. Working together as a class, we will add up the total number of each food item obtained by each beak type.

| | Marbles | Uncooked macaroni | Rubber Bands | Gummy Worms | Crayons |
|-------------|---------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Tablespoon | | | | | |
| Salad Tongs | | | | | |
| Clothespin | | | | | |
| Toothpick | | | | | |
| Pliers | | | | | |

Part 4 - Results and Summary

Answer the following questions:

1.) Were your predictions correct or incorrect? _____

2.) Did your thoughts change after using your beak and seeing the class results? In what way?

3.) Imagine birds with beaks like each of those in the activity were on an island that had only rubber bands for food. Which birds would be most successful and why? _____

4.) Picture the same island 100 years from now. How might the tablespoon bird's beak look after adapting over the years to eating only rubber bands? _____
