

FEATHERS, FAME, AND FABULOUSNESS:

EAZA CROWNED-PIGEON EDUCATION AND AWARENESS GUIDELINES



SCLATER'S CROWNED-PIGEON ANNEX FOR GAMES AND ACTIVITIES, HANDCRAFT- AND GASTRO IDEAS



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Please use this annex as a supplementary section to the Western crowned-pigeon version, which contains a detailed introduction to all crowned-pigeon species. The activities included in this annex are based on the information provided there.

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P&D TAG MISSION STATEMENT AND OUR GOAL

EAZA Pigeon and Dove TAG mission statement:

“To establish and maintain diverse and sustainable ex situ populations of columbids and facilitate support for in situ conservation of threatened pigeon & dove species through collaboration and research with all relevant stakeholders in all regions. “

To reach this goal we created a series of initiatives that aim to:

- Provide ideas and information to improve crowned-pigeon specific environmental education in zoos.
- Increase awareness about crowned-pigeons in the general public and within the zoo world.
- Increase knowledge, awareness and commitment to do action within and beyond the zoo community.
- Promoting collaboration between different ex-situ experts, stakeholders.
- Challenging the status quo of popular flagship species.
- Bringing clarity of functions of modern zoos, such as education.

Please, when you use this material, print only the strictly necessary pages from the full document, and try to reuse what you can (e.g. handcraft templates, or illustrations for activities)!

SCLATER'S CROWNED-PIGEON THEMED GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY TABLE

However, everyone's abilities and skills are different, we recommend an assistant of an adult for the activities highlighted in blue.

We would also like to ask you, that think about the nature, and print only the strictly necessary pages from the full document.

Activities and games	Age group (years old)				
	3-6	6-10	10-14	14-18	18+
Spice smelling game		x	x	x	x
Build a pigeon nest	x	x	x	x	x
Habitat loss game	x	x	x		
Pigeon crown finder	x	x	x	x	x
Poacher game	x	x	x	x	x
Can you save the crowned-pigeons?	x	x	x	x	x
Hidden animals	x	x	x	x	x
Test your crowned-pigeon knowledge!	x	x	x	x	x
Animals with headpieces – Who is who?	x	x	x		
Crowned-pigeon colouring	x	x	x		
Who are the parents? - hybridization game			x	x	
How do birds eat? – beak game		x	x	x	x
Sustainability label matching game				x	x

HOW GOOD IS YOUR NOSE? - SPICE SMELLING GAME

The crowned-pigeon lives with very characteristic plants. During this game you can try to recognise them based on smell (blindfolded).

Can be played: 1-6 people

MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

- glass container with lid (e.g. baby food jar)
- scarf
- spices from around New Guinea, if possible whole, freshly chopped:
 - *cardamom*
 - *black pepper*
 - *cinnamon*
 - *lemongrass*
 - *ginger*
 - *nutmeg*

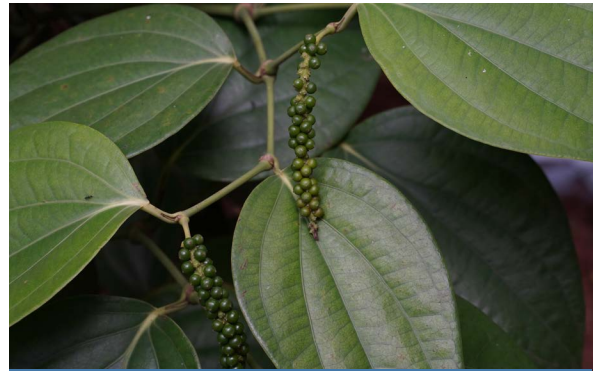
For the little ones, a table where they can put an X in the correct place (they don't have to figure out what they smell, they have options to choose from).

Scent sample	Which place did it take in the line-up?
cardamom	
black pepper	
cinnamon	
lemongrass	
ginger	
nutmeg	

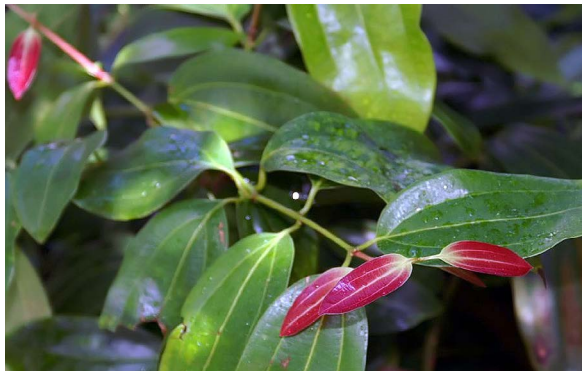
Photos for the glass jar or next to it:



CARDAMOM



BLACK PEPPER



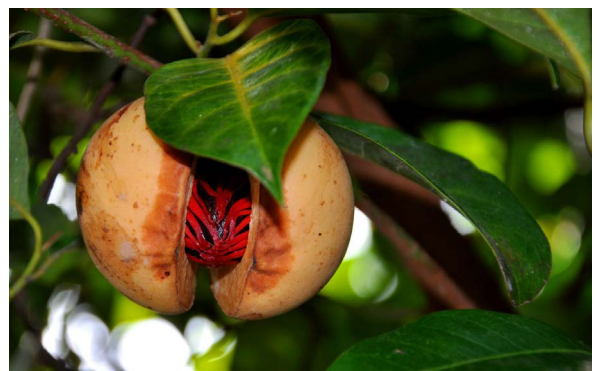
CINNAMON



LEMONGRASS



GINGER



NUTMEG

BUILD A PIGEON NEST

Can be played individually and in groups

MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

- branches, sticks, skewers
- chicken egg or wooden/plastic egg



Pigeons are famous for their simple nest-building habits and although the crowned-pigeon surpasses expectations when it comes to nest-building, most pigeon species are satisfied with crossing a few twigs.

◀ *A not really well constructed domestic pigeon nest*

Be a smart pigeon, build a pigeon nest with as little material as possible. The goal is to use the least amount of twigs so that the egg does not come into contact with the ground or the surface under the nest. If we want to make the game more challenging, we can use skewers or straws.



HABITAT LOSS GAME - CROWNED-PIGEONS IN THE RAINFOREST

Can be played by 7-30 people

MATERIALS

- A big blanket or sheet/ chalk
- Rainforest sounds

HOW TO PLAY

Put the blanket on the floor so everyone can fit on it. This will represent the rainforest.

The players will be the crowned-pigeons foraging on the forest floor. They can do this until they hear the rainforest sound with the birds chirping. When the music stops, they must seek shelter and quickly stand on the blanket. They can help each other to fit on the blanket, but the aim is for everyone to fit in the 'forest'. However, illegal loggers are here to destroy the forest, and the habitat is shrinking. After every time the music stops, the sheet must be folded in half. The goal is to keep as many crowned-pigeons alive as possible. Anyone who cannot stand on the blanket or falls from it is out of the game.

VARIATION 1: the game can be played without a blanket/sheet, in which case we draw a large shape on the ground with chalk, and when the music stops, we cut it in half and redraw the new, smaller borders.

VARIATION 2: we don't use bird sounds; players can seek shelter on a signal (e.g., clapping hands or chainsaw sound).

PIGEON CROWN FINDER



Can be played by 1-2 people

Can be played indoors and outdoors

I invite you to a fun game of observation!

Look around your environment. Can you find something that resembles the crown of the crowned-pigeon?

It could be a shadow, a part of a plant, someone's hair,... anything that can replace the pigeon's jewel in the picture!

Cut the picture below and hold it up to replace the crown with what you see:



If you feel like it, match which feather belongs to which bird!

flamingo, peacock, Nicobar pigeon, guinea fowl, emu, hyacinth macaw, budgerigar, cassowary, Western or Scalet's crowned-pigeon, grey junglefowl, great spotted woodpecker



HIDDEN ANIMALS

Can be played by 1-2 people

65% of the island of New Guinea is covered by forest, which offers a great hiding place for the animals living there. How much so? You can test this too. Find the following species in the picture:

SCLATER'S CROWNED-PIGEON (*Goura sclaterii*)

9 birds are hiding in the picture.

PAPUAN HORNBILL (*Rhyticeros plicatus*)

Most hornbills are monogamous, once they find a mate, they stay with them for life. Our bird is still a bachelor, **sitting alone** on a branch. You can recognize him by his light brown head, unlike the female, who is dark colored.

GROUND CUSCUS (*Phalanger gymnotis*)

Ground cuscuses are strange marsupials. While they usually feed on trees, unlike other cuscus species, they spend their days in burrows dug in the ground, hence their name. They lead a solitary lifestyle. In the picture, you will only find **one animal** munching on fruit.

SHORT-BEAKED ECHIDNA (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*)

What makes one of the strangest mammals special is that despite being a mammal, it reproduces with a soft-shelled egg. The reason for laying eggs is simply that the ancient mammal-like reptiles and early mammals - like the majority of reptiles - originally laid eggs, and they separated from the other mammals very early in the course of evolution, thus retaining this characteristic. They dig very skillfully, and their diet consists largely of ants, beetles, larvae, and worms. In the picture, you will find **one animal** searching for food.

RED-WINGED PARROT (*Aprosmictus erythropterus*)

Although this species is not specifically a jungle dweller, it prefers drier habitats, it can also be found on the island of New Guinea. Like other parrots, they nest in cavities, the nest consists of 3-6 eggs. Only the female incubates, but from the age of 2 weeks, the male takes on most of the chick rearing. The chicks fly out at about 5 weeks of age, but then stay with the parent pair for a much longer time. **One male** is hiding in the picture.

SOUTHERN CASSOWARY (*Casuarius casuarius*)

The cassowary is the heaviest flightless bird after the ostrich. Its feathers are almost hair-like, and its dinosaur-like appearance is due to its long, clawed legs and its helmet. The cassowary's menu consists almost entirely of fruit, which they swallow whole. Most fruit seeds leave the bird almost untouched with a good dose of manure, so this bird is the gardener of the rainforests. Unlike most birds, in their case, the male incubates the eggs and raises the chicks. You can find **one animal** in the picture.

GIANT KATYDID (*Siliquofera grandis*)

These giant leafhoppers can reach up to 13 cm (5 in) in length. Their food consists of plants, mainly leaves, which they consume at night. They are peaceful arthropods, their appearance resembles a leaf, so despite their large size, they easily blend into their environment. It's not easy to discover them, can you find all **7 animals** in the picture?

KING BIRD OF PARADISE (*Cicinnurus regius*)

The king bird of paradise is also called a living gem. The males are recognizable by their brilliant red colour and two long, ornate, wire-like tail feather shafts, and the disc-like, green, spiral feathers sitting on them. The females are brownish in colour, but their legs also shine in a bright blue colour. The male performs a complex courtship dance for the female: first, he sits vertically on a branch, flutters his wings, then holds his body parallel to the branch, spreads his chest feathers, and raises his tail feathers above his head during the dance. Then he swings both his tail feathers and his body to the side, and finally hangs upside down on the branch with closed wings, and swings like a pendulum. You can discover **a female and a male** in the picture.

NEW GUINEA TREE FROG (*Litoria infrafrenata*)

These frogs are among the world's largest tree frogs with their size of 10-14 cm (4-5.5 in). Their color on the back is beautiful bright green, although they can also take on a brownish color due to the temperature. Their peculiar identifying feature is the white stripe around their mouth. Their diet consists of arthropods, which they mainly catch at night. Like all amphibians, they are also able to breathe through their skin. You can discover **3 animals** in the picture.



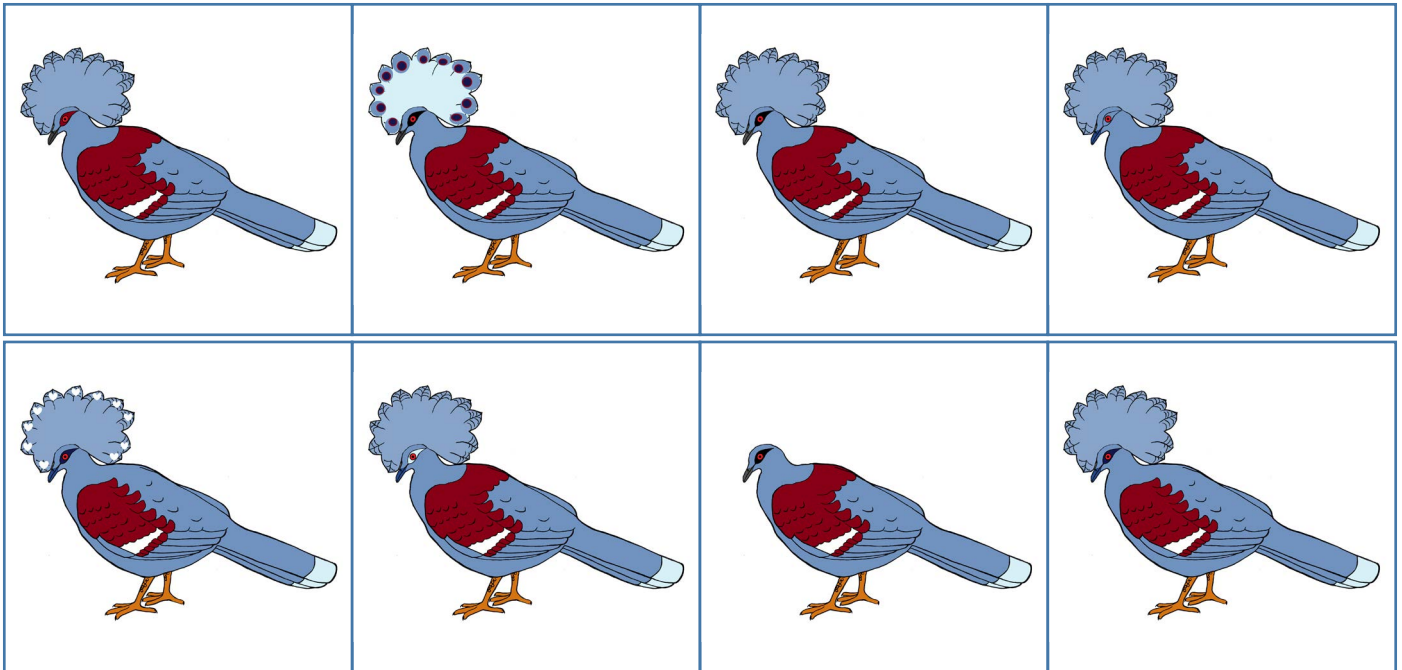
TEST YOUR CROWNED-PIGEON KNOWLEDGE!

I. WHICH CROWNED-PIGEON SPECIES DO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS APPLY TO? PUT AN X IN THE APPROPRIATE COLUMN(S)!

	Western crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura cristata</i>)	Victoria crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura victoria</i>)	Sclater's crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura sclateri</i>)	Scheepmaker's crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura scheepmakeri</i>)
The crown on its head is a different colour from the other species				
Its chest is maroon				
Its distribution area is the westernmost on the island of New Guinea				
They were considered to be one species for a long time				
It is the largest of the four species				
Its chest is blue				
Habitat loss is the greatest threat to it				
Its scientific name comes from the name of a Dutch bird dealer				

II. BASED ON THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION, CHOOSE FROM THE DRAWINGS WHICH ONE COULD BE THE WESTERN CROWNED-PIGEON!

The feathers of its crest are not edged in white. The maroon colour continues on its back. Its chest is blue. It has a black eye stripe.



III. TRUE-FALSE: DECIDE WHICH STATEMENTS ABOUT CROWNED-PIGEONS ARE TRUE AND WHICH ARE FALSE!

Males and females are roughly the same: **TRUE – FALSE**

The blue color observed in crowned-pigeons is common in the animal kingdom: **TRUE – FALSE**

There is always a maroon, almond-shaped spot around the eyes: **TRUE – FALSE**

Their distribution is greatly threatened by habitat loss: **TRUE – FALSE**

They do not have uropygial glands: **TRUE – FALSE**

Their main food is hard boiled eggs: **TRUE – FALSE**

They often lay 1 white egg: **TRUE – FALSE**

They live on the island of New Guinea: **TRUE – FALSE**

IV. VARIOUS HUMAN ACTIVITIES THREATEN THE HABITAT OF CROWNED-PIGEONS. BASED ON THE PICTURES, LIST A FEW!



Blank space for writing an answer.



Blank space for writing an answer.



Blank space for writing an answer.

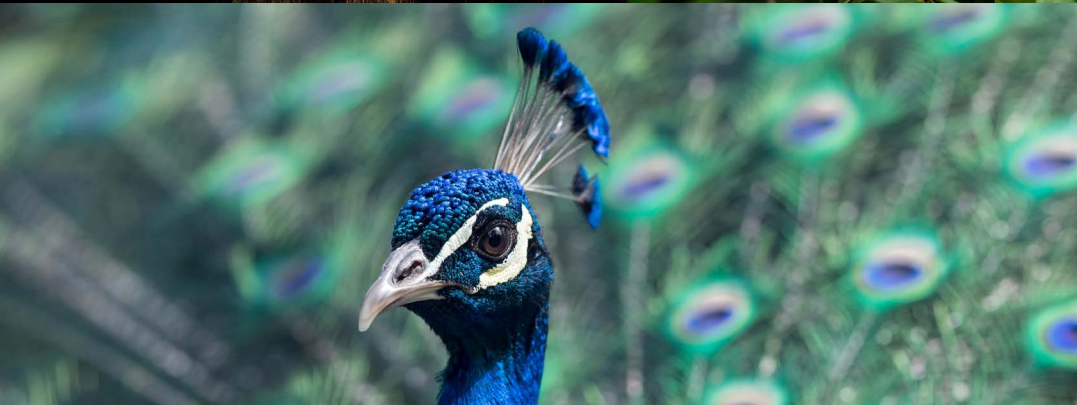


Blank space for writing an answer.

ANIMALS WITH HEADPIECES - WHO IS WHO?

Many animals wear crowns and headpieces on their heads. Who are they? Match the names with the animals!

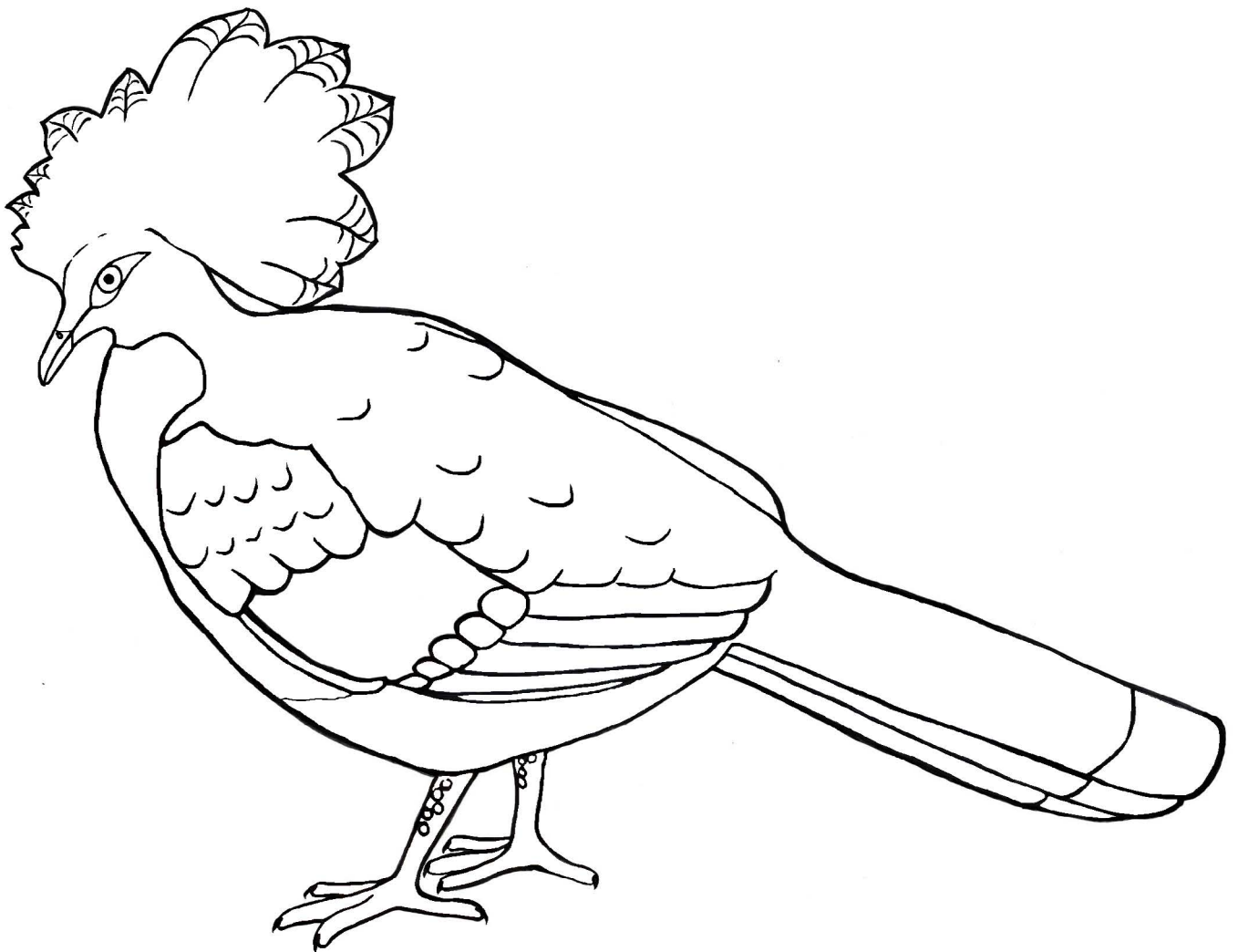
Sclater's crowned-pigeon
northern cardinal
Eurasian hoopoe
California quail
lion
peacock
red-whiskered bulbul
secretary bird
southern cassowary
helmeted guineafowl
salmon-crested cockatoo
red deer
Hercules beetle



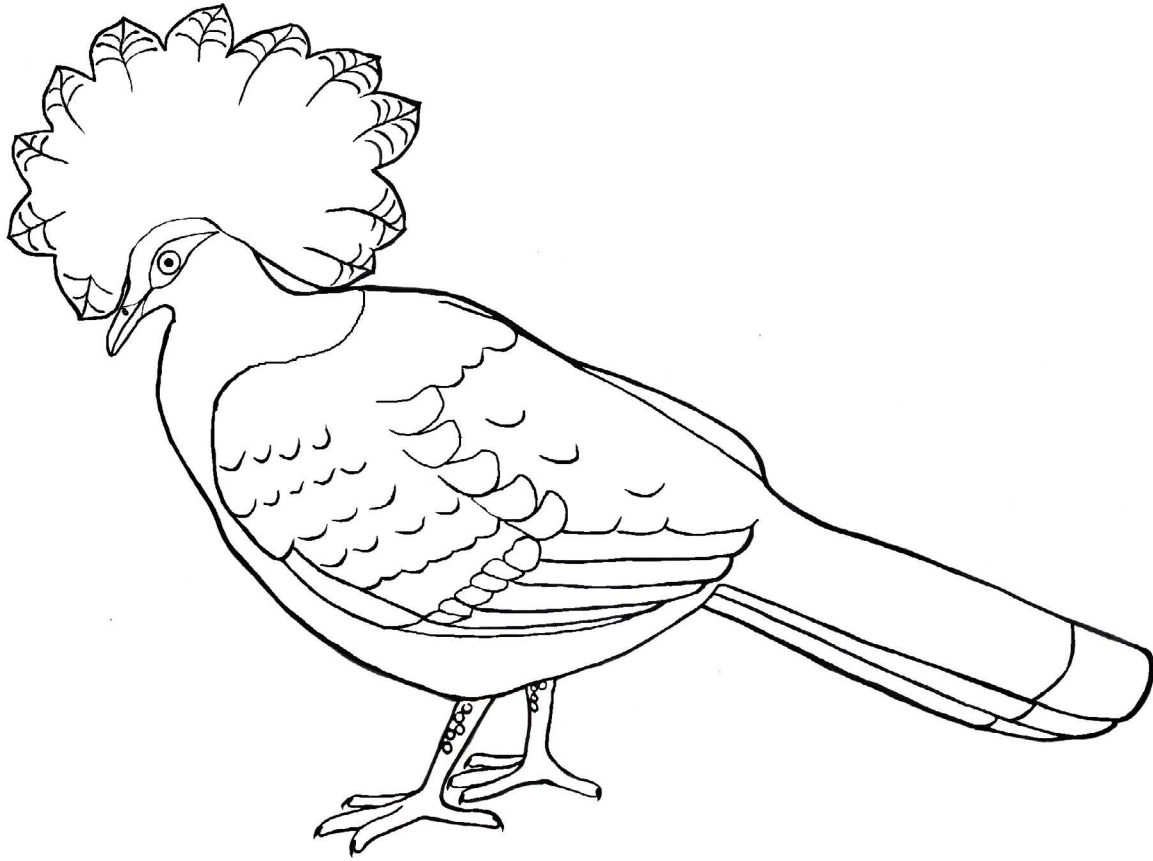
COLOUR THE THREE CROWNED-PIGEON SPECIES

Pay attention to the correct colours!

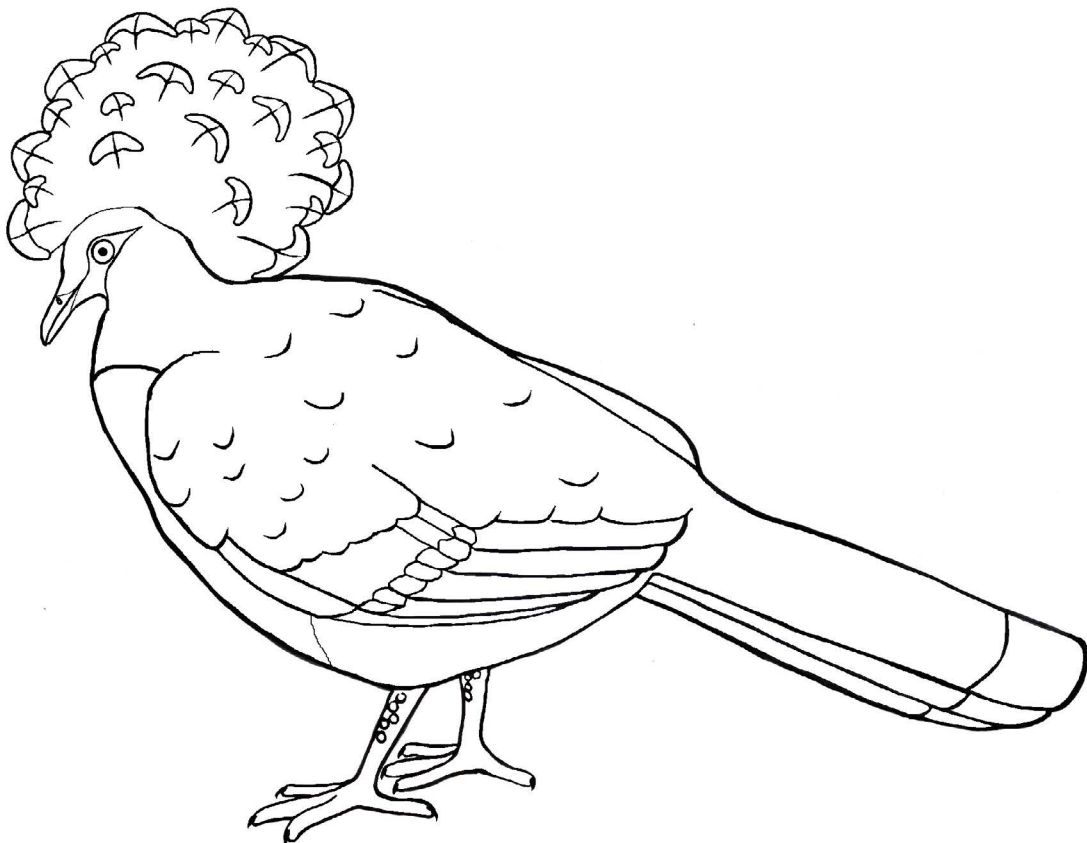
SCLATER'S CROWNED-PIGEON



WESTERN CROWNED-PIGEON



VICTORIA CROWNED-PIGEON



WHO ARE THE PARENTS? - HYBRIDIZATION GAME

In the past, when zoos did not pay enough attention to species conservation, unfortunately several species of crowned-pigeons were kept together. Since different species are evolutionarily close to each other, it has happened that individuals of two different species have mated and hatchlings were born.

Help zookeepers guess which two of the three EEP species (Western, Victoria and Sclater's crowned-pigeon) could have been the parents of the following hybrid animals. If you need, go back and see which species characteristics can be used to distinguish different species of crowned-pigeons.

1.



2.



3.



HOW DO BIRDS EAT? - BEAK GAME

Can be played by 5-25 people (ideal with 15 people)

MATERIALS AND TOOLS: models of beaks of different species of birds, photos of the same birds

LET'S GET STARTED:

PREPARATIONS:

- The names of the birds in the game on small notes and their photo
- Imitations of the beaks of different bird species
- The model of the food consumed by the given bird species

THE GAME:

1. We divide the participants into as many groups as there are bird species.
2. Each team receives a photo, based on which they must identify the bird's name.
3. Once they have found everything, they can test the function of the beaks with the help of the models. Let's switch teams after a while!
4. If we made several beak models, the teams could try out what it's like to try to peck some food models with a different beak type.
5. We can also change the game so that each team tries to pick up all types of food in a given time with its own beak model.

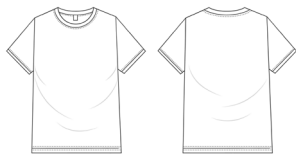
bird	beak type	working mechanism	diet	imitations of the beak	imitations of the diet	game: complete the following tasks in a given amount of time:
flamingo	strainer beak	filtering small food items from water	algae, small seeds, tiny crustaceans, plant parts	small aquarium net	bowl with water and smaller types of cereals	filter as much cereal as possible and transfer it to another bowl
European goldfinch	cone beak	mostly for picking seeds and peeling them	mostly seeds, buds and insects seasonally	two small paper cones, which we can pull on our thumb and index finger	a handful of sunflower or other seeds	transfer as many seeds as possible to another bowl
crowned-pigeon	modified cone beak	picking up seeds, fruits and small insects	seeds, fruits, plant parts, insects	flat type of tweezers	diced apple, cooked peas, raisins, seeds and 1-2 cm long strings mixed together	pick as many food items as possible and transfer them to a different bowl
hummingbird	probing beak	sipping nectar from flowers	nectar	straw	Two small containers, one is filled with water, the other one is empty	hold the straw in the water, then cover the top and transfer as much water as possible to the other container
curlew	probing beak	taking small invertebrates out from the mud	small invertebrates	bbq tongs	water and soil mixed in a bowl, 4-5 cm long pieces of strings mixed in it	try to find as many strings as possible and collect them in another bowl with the least amount of mud
swift	short beak, big mouth	catching flying insects while the bird is in the air	flying insects	small aquarium net	smaller cotton balls	throw the cotton balls into the air and try to catch them with the net
sparrowhawk	hooked beak	shredding and tearing meat	smaller mammals, birds	two forks, one as beak, one as talon	a banana	try to peel the banana and tear it into pieces
Eurasian wren	short, pointy beak	catching insects	larvae of butterflies, moths, flies, small insects, spiders	small, pointy tweezers	short, 1 cm long pieces of strings	try to pick the strings one by one and collect them in a different bowl



SUSTAINABILITY LABEL MATCHING GAME

You can do a lot to protect the habitat of crowned-pigeons! How? If you recognize and choose products with these sustainability labels!

Match the pictures! Which logo belongs to which product?



LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS - CROWNED-PIGEON-THEMED GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

HOW GOOD IS YOUR NOSE? - SPICE SMELLING GAME

1. Cardamom by T. R. Shankar Raman, Wikimedia commons
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3. Cinnamon by David J. Stang, Wikimedia commons
4. Lemongrass by Mokkie, Wikimedia commons
5. Ginger by Dguendel, Wikimedia commons
6. Nutmeg by Fpalli, Wikimedia commons

BUILD A PIGEON NEST

7. Pigeon nest by alvaro, AdobeStock
8. Photo by Csilla Beke
9. Photo by Csilla Beke
10. Photo by Csilla Beke

PIGEON CROWN FINDER

11. Photo by Borbála Kocsis

POACHER GAME

12. Photo by Boglárka Takács-Kocsis
13. Grey junglefowl by Sai Adikarla, Wikimedia commons
14. Greater spotted woodpecker by Gerry Zambonini, Wikimedia commons
15. Guinea fowl by Duncan Mcnab, Unsplash
16. Flamingo by Gwen Weustink, Unsplash
17. Emu by Brooke Laven, Pexels
18. Hyacinth macaw, Pexels
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20. Budgerigar by wwarby, Pexels
21. Nicobar pigeon by Rob Potter, Unsplash
22. Crowned-pigeon, AdobeStock
23. Cassowary by seiichiro, Unsplash

TEST YOUR CROWNED-PIGEON KNOWLEDGE!

24. Logging by Wakx, Wikimedia commons
25. Oil palms by Richard Carey, AdobeStock
26. OkTedi mine in New Guinea, by Dr. Blofeld, Wikimedia commons
27. Spread of infrastructure in district Tawau Sabah, logging trucks by CEphoto, Uwe Aranas, Wikimedia commons

ANIMALS WITH HEADPIECES - WHO IS WHO?

28. Secretary bird by Rolf Dietrich Brecher, Wikimedia commons
29. Helmeted guineafowl by Asher Pardey, Unsplash
30. Salmon-crested cockatoo by Len Charnoff, Wikimedia commons
31. California quail by Gary Kramer, Wikimedia commons
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33. Cassowary by David Clode, Unsplash
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40. Sclater's crowned-pigeon, Shutterstock

HOW DO BIRDS EAT? - BEAK GAME

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43. Curlew by Petr Ganaj, Pexels
44. Eurasian sparrowhawk by Sharp Photography, Wikimedia commons
45. European goldfinch by Francis C. Franklin, Wikimedia commons
46. Flamingo, Pexels
47. Hummingbird by frank Cone, Pexels
48. Crowned-pigeon Christophe95, Wikimedia commons

SUSTAINABILITY LABEL MATCHING

49. -56 Illustrations designed by Freepik and by brgfx jemastock, vectorpocket, jeamstock and brgfx on Freepik, and by granate-artist132016 on Vecteezy

SOLUTIONS FOR THE GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

POACHER GAME

THEY CAUGHT A POACHER,
WHAT COULD HE HAVE SMUGGLED?



FLAMINGO



PEACOCK



NICOBAR PIGEON



GUINEA FOWL



EMU



HYACINTH MACAW



BUDGERIGAR



SOUTHERN CASSOWARY



**WESTERN OR SCALTER'S
CROWNED-PIGEON**



GREY JUNGLEFOWL



GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

CAN YOU SAVE THE CROWNED-PIGEONS?

The product you buy contains palm oil. - no

More tropical wood furniture should be produced! - no

Gourmet snack: roasted crowned-pigeon! Would you like fries with that? - no

Cheap gold from New Guinea, are you interested? - no

Shall zoos breed crowned-pigeons? - yes

Involve and support local communities in conservation projects. - yes

I want to keep crowned-pigeons at home! - no

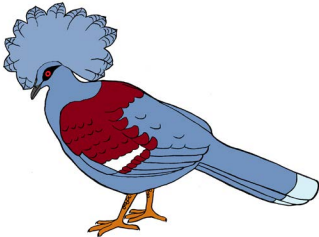
TEST YOUR CROWNED-PIGEON KNOWLEDGE!

I. WHICH CROWNED-PIGEON SPECIES DO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS APPLY TO? PUT AN X IN THE APPROPRIATE COLUMN(S)!

	Western crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura cristata</i>)	Victoria crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura victoria</i>)	Sclater's crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura sclateri</i>)	Scheepmaker's crowned-pigeon (<i>Goura scheepmakeri</i>)
The crown on its head is a different colour from the other species		X		
Its chest is maroon		X	X	X
Its distribution area is the westernmost on the island of New Guinea	X			
They were considered to be one species for a long time			X	X
It is the largest of the four species		X		
Its chest is blue	X			
Habitat loss is the greatest threat to it	X	X	X	X
Its scientific name comes from the name of a Dutch bird dealer				X

II. BASED ON THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION, CHOOSE FROM THE DRAWINGS WHICH ONE COULD BE THE WESTERN CROWNED-PIGEON!

The feathers of its crest are not edged in white. The maroon colour continues on its back. Its chest is blue. It has a black eye stripe.

III. TRUE-FALSE: DECIDE WHICH STATEMENTS ABOUT CROWNED-PIGEONS ARE TRUE AND WHICH ARE FALSE!

Males and females are roughly the same: TRUE – FALSE

The blue color observed in crowned-pigeons is common in the animal kingdom: TRUE – FALSE

There is always a maroon, almond-shaped spot around the eyes: TRUE – FALSE

Their distribution is greatly threatened by habitat loss: TRUE – FALSE

They do not have uropygial glands: TRUE – FALSE

Their main food is hard boiled eggs: TRUE – FALSE

They often lay 1 white egg: TRUE – FALSE

They live on the island of New Guinea: TRUE – FALSE

IV. VARIOUS HUMAN ACTIVITIES THREATEN THE HABITAT OF CROWNED-PIGEONS. BASED ON THE PICTURES, LIST A FEW!



Logging



Agriculture



Mining



Infrastructure development

ANIMALS WITH HEADPIECES - WHO IS WHO?



SCLATER'S CROWNED-PIGEON



NORTHERN CARDINAL



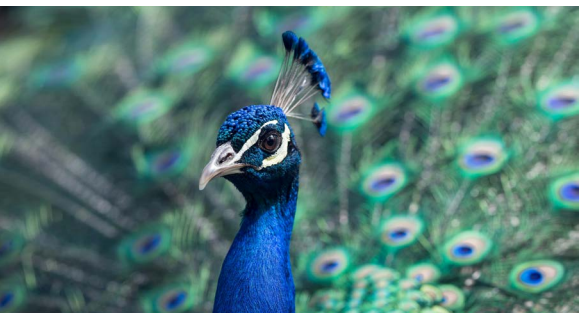
EURASIAN HOOPOE



CALIFORNIA QUAIL



LION



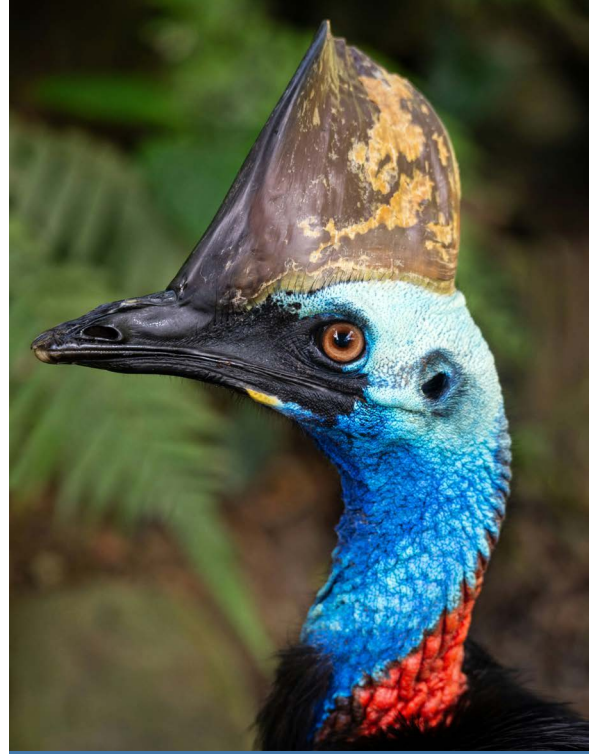
PEACOCK



RED-WHISKERED BULBUL



SECRETARY BIRD



SOUTHERN CASSOWARY



HELMETED GUINEAFOWL



SALMON-CRESTED COCKATOO



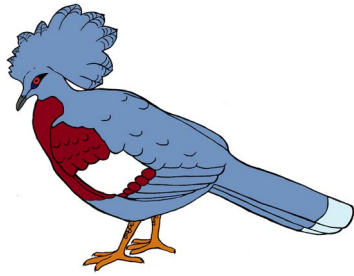
RED DEER



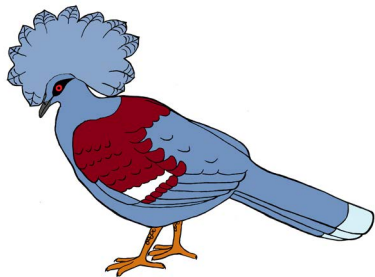
HERCULES BEETLE

COLOURING SOLUTIONS

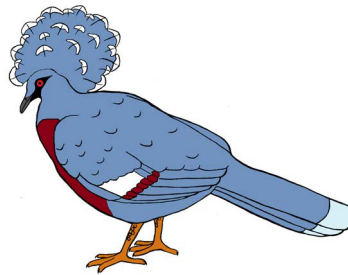
SCLATER'S CROWNED-PIGEON



WESTERN CROWNED-PIGEON



VICTORIA CROWNED-PIGEON



WHO ARE THE PARENTS? - HYBRIDIZATION GAME SOLUTIONS

1. Western crowned-pigeon (maroon shoulder belt that crosses the back, maroon patch on wing coverts, completely blue crown, tip of the tail feathers is white, black mask around eyes) and Sclater's crowned-pigeon (completely blue crown, maroon chest, maroon patch on wing coverts, tip of the tail feathers is white, almond-shaped black mask around the eyes)
2. Sclater's crowned-pigeon (maroon spot on wing cover, red chest, tip of the tail feathers are white, almond-shaped black mask around the eyes) and Victoria crowned-pigeon (white colour in crown, maroon chest)
3. It is a bit tricky, here we can not narrow it down to two species: Sclater's crowned-pigeon (completely blue crown), Western crowned-pigeon (completely blue crown), Victoria crowned-pigeon (there is no maroon spot on the wing coverts, maroon chest, the end of the tail feathers is grey, black mask around the eye that runs under the beak)

SUSTAINABILITY LABEL MATCHING GAME SOLUTION



LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS - CROWNED-PIGEON-THEMED GAMES AND ACTIVITIES AND THEIR SOLUTIONS

POACHER GAME

1. -10. Photo by Boglárka Takács-Kocsis

TEST YOUR CROWNED-PIGEON KNOWLEDGE!

11. Logging by Wakx, Wikimedia commons

12. Oil palms by Richard Carey, AdobeStock

13. OkTedi mine in New Guinea, by Dr. Blofeld,
Wikimedia commons

14. Spread of infrastructure in district Tawau
Sabah, loggin trucks by CEphoto, Uwe
Aranas, Wikimedia commons

ANIMALS WITH HEADPIECES - WHO IS WHO?

15. Sclater's crowned-pigeon, Shutterstock

16. Northern cardinal by Tina Nord, Pexels

17. Eurasian hoopoe by Rajukhan Pathan, Pexels

18. California quail by Gary Kramer, Wikimedia
commons

19. Lion by alexas fotos, Pexels

20. Peacock by Tj Holowaychuk, Unsplash

21. Red-whiskered bulbul by Nashad Abdu,
Unsplash

22. Secretary bird by Rolf Dietrich Brecher,
Wikimedia commons

23. Cassowary by David Clode, Unsplash

24. Helmeted guineafowl by Asher Pardey,
Unsplash

25. Salmon-crested cockatoo by Len
Charnoff, Wikimedia commons

26. Red deer by Gabriele Brancati, Pexels

27. Hercules beetle by Bruno P. Ramos,
Wikimedia commons

SUSTAINABILITY LABEL MATCHING

28 -36 Illustrations designed by Freepik and
by brgfx jemastock, vectorpocket,
jeamstock and brgfx on Freepik, and
by granate-artist132016 on Vecteezy

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

37. Victoria crowned-pigeon (*Goura
victoria*), Shutterstock



CROWNED-PIGEON THEMED HANDCRAFT IDEAS

SUMMARY TABLE

However, everyone's abilities and skills are different, we recommend an assistant of an adult for the activities highlighted in blue. Please, always be cautious when using sharp objects and hot glue.

We would also like to ask you, that think about the nature, and print only the strictly necessary pages from the full document.

Handcraft ideas	Age group (years old)				
	3-6	6-10	10-14	14-18	18+
Making a crowned-pigeon stamp	x	x	x	x	x
Making a crowned-pigeon figure		x	x	x	x
Seed ball from recycled paper	x	x	x	x	x
Bird ringing bracelet	x	x	x	x	x
Paper thread art		x	x	x	x
Grass head	x	x	x	x	x

MAKE A CROWNED-PIGEON STAMP!



MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

- Cork or potato
- Sharp knife
- Cutting board
- Foam sheet
- Glue
- Paint (appropriate for the surface you are stamping on)
- Surface to stamp on (paper, textile, etc.)

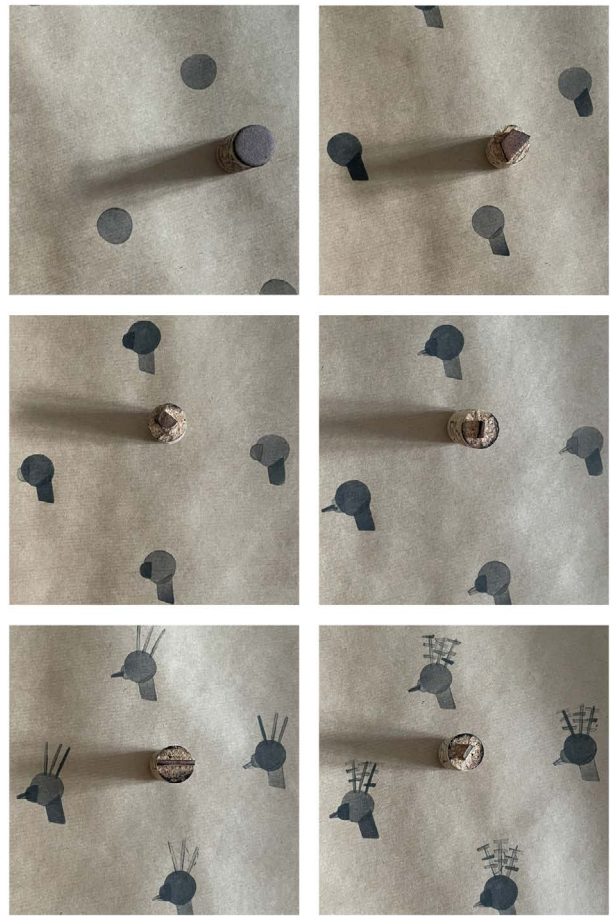
LET'S GET STARTED!

1. Carefully cut out the following shapes from the cork and also from the decorative rubber: full circle, small semi-circle, trapezoid, long strip, and a short strip.
2. Glue each rubber shape to the same cork shape, and wait until it dries. You will have five different shapes of stamp.
3. You can use it by pressing it into the paint, making from the simple individual shapes a more complex pattern, such as a crowned-pigeon. Feel free to experiment with the shapes!

Or

4. Carefully cut the potato in half, then cut out the desired shapes from its surface.
5. You can use it by pressing it into paint!

If you like the technique, you can make wrapping paper, greeting/postcards, canvas bags, and anything unique with it, only your imagination sets the limit. Have the coolest special animal set for yourself!



MAKING A CROWNED-PIGEON FIGURE



Would you like to have a crowned-pigeon at home? You can make a figure version of it, and we'll show you how.

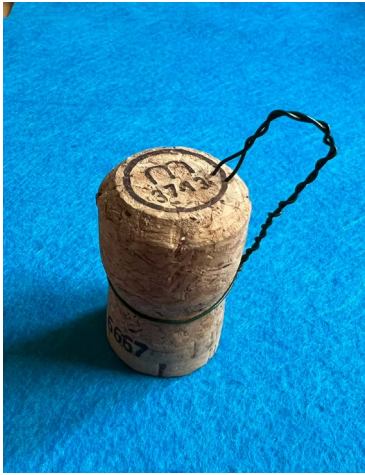
MATERIALS AND TOOLS NEEDED:

- 2 corks, preferably the wider, champagne type
- 24 cm wire
- Felt materials (blue, maroon, white, grey, and black)
- 2 small red beads
- Blue chenille ball
- Small blue lace
- Needle and thread
- Templates
- Pencil or anything that can mark on felt
- Liquid glue (a glue gun is best)
- Scissors

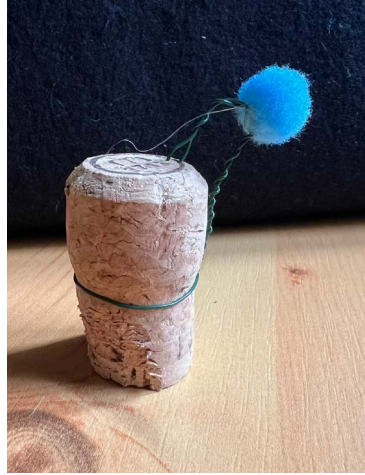
LET'S GET STARTED!

1. The base of the crowned-pigeon is a cork. Since the pigeon's body tapers at the back, you need to carve the back of the cork a bit. Ask an adult for help with this!
2. Attach the twisted wire to this, forming the neck part (see below).
3. Glue the chenille ball to the wire; this will be the bird's head. If you feel the head is too small, wrap more blue yarn around it to increase the size. However, a small head is not a problem, as the crowned-pigeon's head is relatively small compared to its body (see below).
4. **Using the templates shown below**, cut out your own patterns, following the appropriate colours! Use a light pencil to outline on dark material. The template is enough for two birds.
5. "Dress up" the pigeon: glue the two simplified bird shapes to the sides of the bird.
6. Make a crown from the blue lace, gather the bottom with needle and thread, and glue it to the bird's head. If you don't have lace, you can make a great crown from blue paper (see below)!
7. Glue the appropriate felt strips to the bird's back and belly (see below).
8. Continue gluing with the wings: glue the white and maroon wing covers to both wings, then attach both wings to the sides of the body (see below).
9. Glue the tail feathers to the tail strip, then attach the bird's tail to the strip running along the back (see below).
10. Glue a circular piece of felt to the back of the bird to cover the exposed part of the cork.
11. For the beak, make a cone shape from the cut-out felt, which you can secure with glue or a bit of thread to prevent it from unrolling. Glue this to the bird's head. You can also make the beak from cardboard; the important thing is that it stays in place once attached.
12. Next, glue the red beads to the appropriate places on the black eye spots, then attach them to the bird's head (see below).
13. If you still have patience, you can make legs from twisted wire. If you're tired, a simpler solution will do – place the pigeon on a small branch and attach it to a cork. Before gluing it, find the balance point, as the bird will only stay steady if placed at this point.

2.



3.



5.



6.
A



6.
B



7.



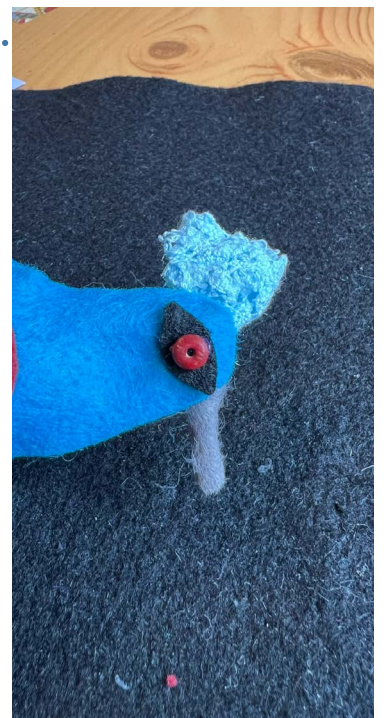
8.



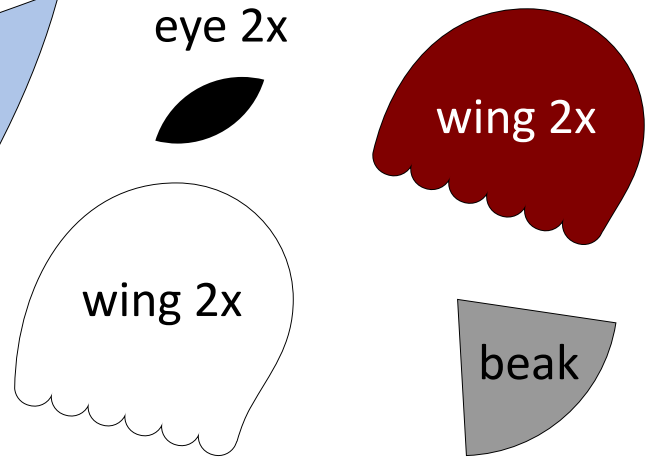
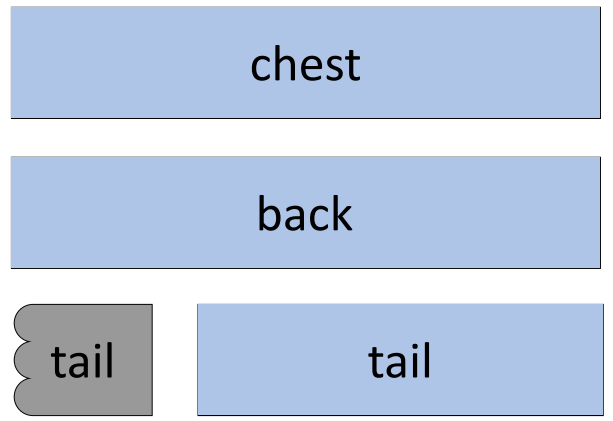
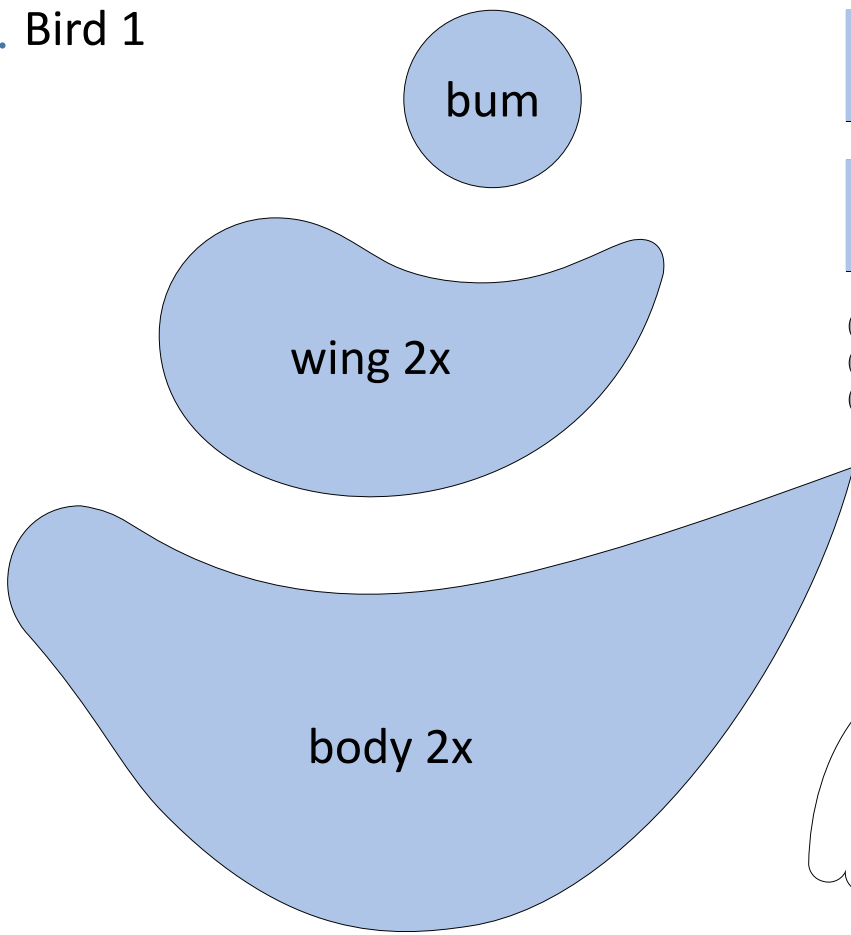
9.



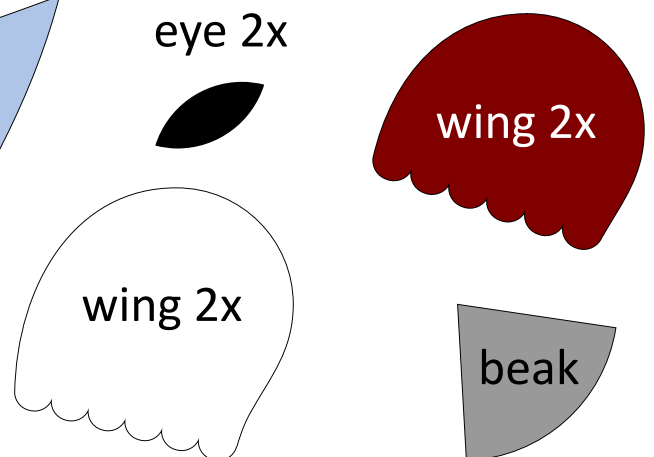
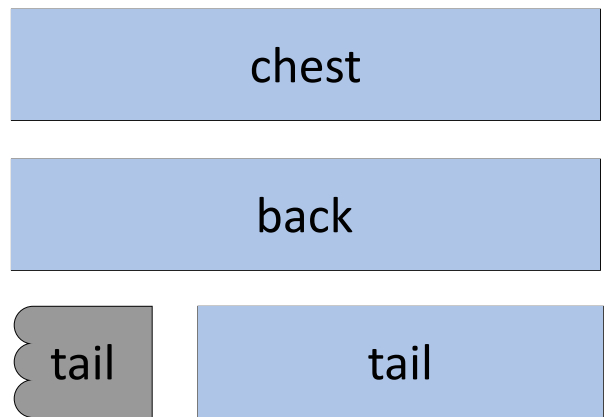
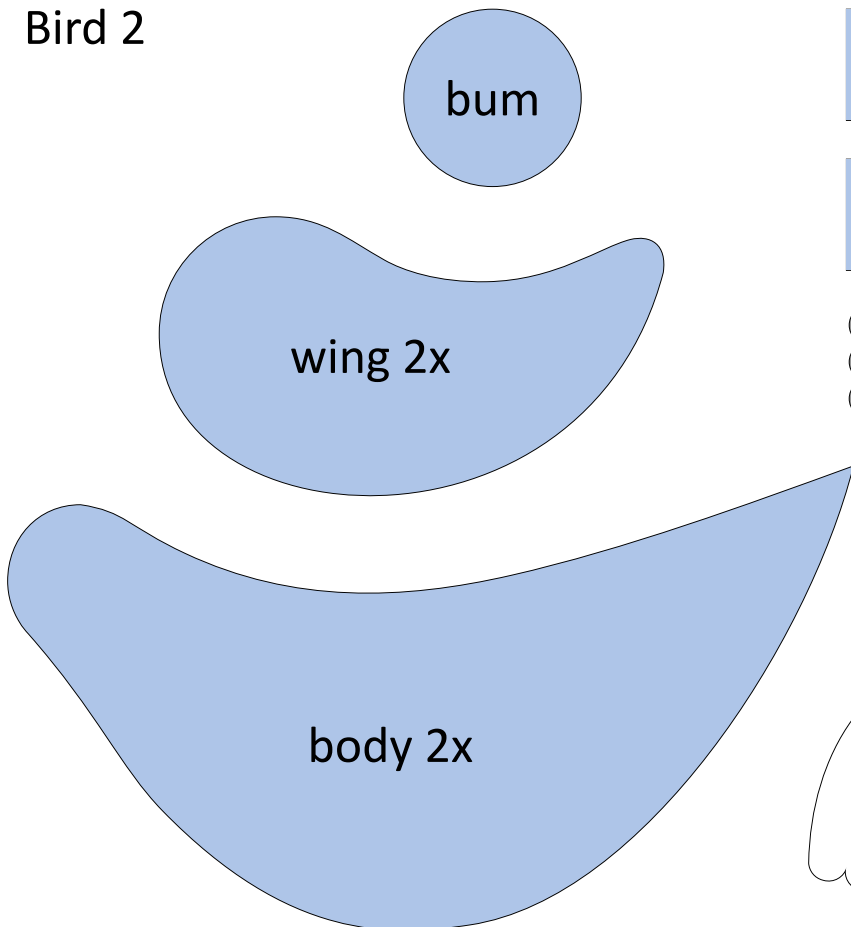
12.



4. Bird 1



Bird 2



MAKE A SEED BALL FROM RECYCLED PAPER!



You probably often have clean paper waste at your place. A very exciting way to reuse it is to make papier mache out of it, into which you can put the smaller seeds that the crowned-pigeon also eats.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

- Torn up paper
- Small seeds, which even a crowned-pigeon would eat e.g. grass seed, wheat, sorghum, millet
- Maybe an ice cream stick that you can build into the seed ball and write the name of the plant on it

LET'S GET STARTED!

All you have to do is:

1. Tear the paper into small pieces.
2. Soak it overnight in hot water.
3. Grind it with a blender.
4. When the pulp is ready, take a handful in your hand, squeeze out the excess water (but don't let it be too dry!), then knead in the small seeds that the crowned-pigeon also favours.
5. Flatten and shape the pulp into any form between your hands, leave it like that or stick it around the ice cream stick if you want. When you are satisfied, let it dry in a well-ventilated place for a day.
6. Give the balls as a gift, or plant them yourself.



BIRD RINGING BRACELET



Birds often have rings, which makes them unique. Be unique too, and make your own bird ring-inspired bracelet!

MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

- Wooden spatula (available in pharmacies) or wooden ice cream stick (can be sterilized by cooking)
- Container for soaking
- Water
- Glass for shaping
- Coloured felt-tip pens for decoration

Variations: it can also be decorated with paint, nail polish, decoupage technique, thread wrapping, etc.

LET'S GET STARTED!

1. Soak the sticks in water.
2. When the wood has become flexible enough, bend it and put it in an empty glass.
3. Wait until it completely dries.
4. Decorate it as you like.

If you choose the bird ringing theme, give a bright base colour to the stick, then write a short letter code and a number series that is important to us in a different colour.

Valentine's Day version: In case of a couple, we can write our own code (e.g., KATE 20010601) under our sweetheart's (e.g.: PETER 19981119), so it is clear to the "researchers" whom we paired up with.



PAPER THREAD ART



Paper thread art is an incredibly simple and inspiring way to create creative inscriptions and images by embroidering on a perforated cardboard sheet based on a given pattern. Here, we present a work inspired by a victoria crowned-pigeon, but you can choose any species.



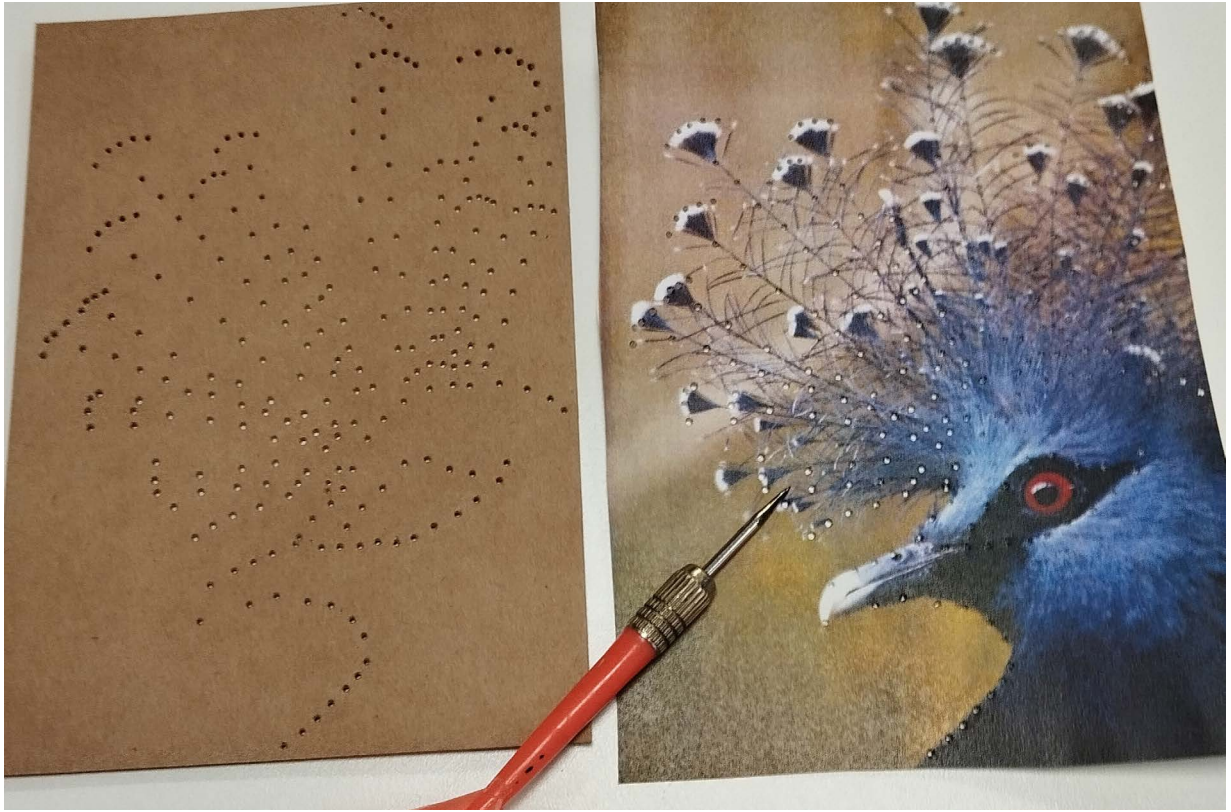
MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Sturdy cardboard
- A picture of a crowned-pigeon, the size of the embroidery you want to make
- A base for punching (e.g., styrofoam, cork)
- Awl
- Embroidery needle
- Embroidery thread
- Scissors

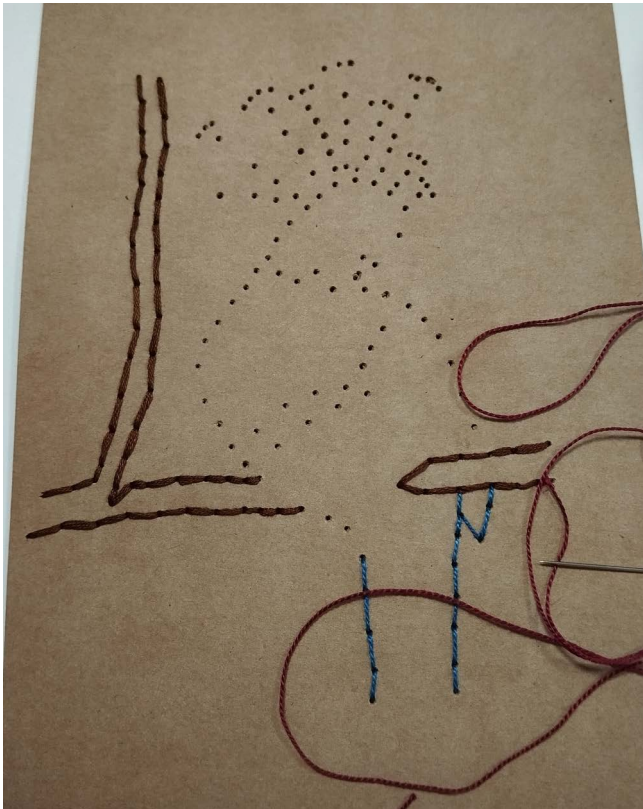
LET'S GET STARTED!

1. Take a sheet, print or draw the desired pattern on it.
2. Mark dots at equal distances along the pattern line.
3. Slide a base under the sheet along with the cardboard.
4. Punch through the marked dots with an awl so that the pattern appears on the cardboard (see below).
5. Start embroidering on the cardboard: secure the embroidery thread on the back, then proceed through the holes, embroidering the pattern.
6. You can do this in several ways: you can pass the thread through a hole multiple times as a hub, or just once. It's up to you how you want to guide the thread from one hole to another. The threads can run next to or over each other. The intersections of the threads will outline the desired patterns and shapes (see below).
7. Embroider neatly and tightly, but don't pull the thread too hard.
8. When the embroidery is finished, secure the thread on the back.
9. You can glue a backing to the finished work with another piece of cardboard or attach it to the front of a notebook (see below).

4.



6.



9.



MAKE A GRASS HEAD!

As spring approaches, we increasingly long for fresh green plants in our homes. Let's bring nature closer, plant seeds, and make a grass head for home decoration!



NECESSARY MATERIALS AND TOOLS:

- Used stockings (thinner than 40 denier)
- Small seeds that even a crowned-pigeon would eat, e.g. grass seed, wheat, sorghum, millet
- Potting soil
- Bowl/container
- String
- Scissors



LET'S GET STARTED!

1. Mix 3 tablespoons of seeds with 3 handfuls of soil.
2. Find a part of the stocking that is not torn, it is intact. Cut out a piece as big as you want the grass head to be!
3. Fill the seed-mixed soil into the stocking and tie its mouth so the soil does not fall out.
4. Place it in a glass bowl, spray it with water daily, and wait until the whole ball turns green!



LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS - CROWNED-PIGEON THEMED HANDCRAFT IDEAS

MAKE A CROWNED-PIGEON STAMP!

1-4. Photo by Boglárka Takács-Kocsis

MAKING A CROWNED-PIGEON FIGURE

5-14. Photo by Borbála Kocsis

MAKE A SEED BALL FROM RECYCLED PAPER!

15-16. Photo by Boglárka Takács-Kocsis

BIRD RINGING BRACELET

17. Photo by Emese Czeczidlowszky-Hervatin

PAPER THREAD ART

18. Photo by Borbála Kocsis

19-22. Photo by Ildikó Hraskó

MAKE A GRASS HEAD!

23-25. Photo by Boglárka Takács-Kocsis

26. Sclater's crowned-pigeon (*Goura sclaterii*) by Marcin Konsek, Wikimedia commons



CROWNED-PIGEON INSPIRED GASTRO IDEAS

SUMMARY TABLE

However, everyone’s abilities and skills are different, we recommend an assistant of an adult for the activities highlighted in blue. Please, always be cautious when using sharp objects.

Crowned-pigeon inspired gastro ideas	Age group (years old)				
	3-6	6-10	10-14	14-18	18+
Satay chicken			x	x	x
Blue cocktails					x
Blue non-alcoholic cocktails	x	x	x	x	x
Crowned-pigeon cake			x	x	x
Fruit salad		x	x	x	x

SATAY CHICKEN



If you want to feel the atmosphere of the land of the beautiful crowned-pigeons the best way is to try the flavours of the home of these birds.

One of the most popular dishes, satay chicken, is a perfect choice for this. The rich, creamy peanut sauce crowns your meal.

Although both Thailand and Malaysia would like to claim it as their own, the origins of this dish can be traced back to Java, Indonesia. While crowned-pigeons live on another island, New Guinea, this dish is popular in that area, too.

Although there are many versions to make it, we aim to bring you an easy-to-make recipe instead of sticking to the truly authentic version. You can serve it with rice and steamed vegetables of your taste.

NOTES

You can also make the recipe from beef or pork, and if you opt for a vegetarian version, you can substitute the chicken with tofu too. Make sure you press out the water before you use it. If you prefer a vegan version, replace the butter with vegetable, e.g. peanut oil.

One of the staple ingredients is ketjap manis, a sweet, thick, dark soy sauce you can buy in most Asian stores. If it is not available, you can make a substitute. You can find more info on this after the recipe.

INGREDIENTS

For the chicken

- 1 lb / 500g chicken breast or thigh fillets (skinless and boneless)
- 2 1/2 tbsp ketjap manis
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter, melted
- 12 – 14 small bamboo skewers, soaked in water for at least 30 minutes

Peanut sauce

- 1 tbsp cooking oil (peanut, canola, vegetable)
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 small red onion or shallots, chopped
- 1-3 fresh birds eye chillis, depending on how hot you like your sauce, chopped
- 1/2 cup / 125g / 4.4 oz peanut butter
- 1 cup full fat coconut milk
- 2 1/2 tbsp ketjap manis
- 1/2 tbsp soy sauce
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 tbsp fresh lime juice

Garnish

- Crushed peanuts
- Lime wedges
- Sliced shallots/scallions

INSTRUCTIONS

Chicken

1. Cut the chicken into 1.5cm/0.5" cubes.
2. Mix the ketjap manis and the melted butter and fold the chicken cubes into it.
3. Thread 4-6 pieces of marinated chicken cubes onto skewers.
4. You can cook the skewers on a BBQ/grill, but it works perfectly in a large non-stick fry pan with some oil. Just make sure the skewers fit in the pan.
5. You can serve it with the rice and vegetables and the peanut sauce. Garnish it with chopped peanuts, shallots, and lime wedges.

Peanut sauce

1. Heat oil in a small saucepan over medium-high heat.
2. Add the onions, garlic and chilli and cook them for 3 minutes, till the onion is translucent. Be careful not to burn it, stirring it often.
3. Turn the heat down to medium, then add peanut butter, coconut milk, ketjap manis, soy sauce and salt.
4. Simmer for 10 minutes, whisking occasionally. Don't worry if the oil separates from the rest.
5. Use a stick blender to puree the sauce. If you make this in a blender, let it cool a bit.
6. Add the lime juice and simmer for another 2 minutes.
7. Let it cool a bit before you serve it. It will thicken, which is normal.



What can you do if you don't have Ketjap manis?

You can use dark soy sauce and sugar. For every 3 tablespoons of dark soy sauce, use 1 tablespoon of sugar.

If you have regular, light soy sauce, you will need more sugar as it is thinner than dark soy sauce. In this case, the ratio is 1:1. If you don't want to make a syrup-like substitute, just add half a tablespoon of soy sauce and half a tablespoon of coconut, palm or brown sugar for every tablespoon of ketjap manis, what the recipe calls for. You can use tamari and sugar in a 1:1 ratio if you need a gluten-free version.

If you have more time, mix 1 cup of light soy sauce with 1 cup of brown sugar in a saucepan and, in low heat, simmer while stirring. After 5-10 min you can see a more syrup-like consistency. Let it cool, store it in the refrigerator in an airtight container, and use it later. What we don't recommend is to use fish sauce or Worcestershire sauce. These are too thin or have different tastes.

All in all, while these options mentioned above are not the perfect substitutes, don't be discouraged, just enjoy cooking and experimenting with different flavours.

CROWNED-PIGEON INSPIRED COCKTAILS

DISCLAIMER:

This content is intended solely for audiences of legal drinking age, and is not intended to promote alcohol consumption, overconsumption or abuse. Creating alcoholic or non-alcoholic blue cocktails is an idea of a fun activity to engage responsible adults and raise awareness of threatened blue pigeon species, such as the blue crowned-pigeon. We remind anyone of legal drinking age who wishes to try the recipes to do so responsibly and only if their health and physical condition allow it. EAZA shall not be liable for any consequences of the consumption of these cocktails.

TIPS:

When decorating cocktails, you can let your imagination run wild. You can use citrus peels cut into different shapes, citrus slices and wedges, edible flowers, maraschino cherries, mint and other herb leaves, fruits, and everything edible. You can make your blue cocktail more crowned-pigeon-like if you use maraschino cherries, which resemble the birds' red eyes, and some fresh herbs, such as basil or mint, to make them more tropical.

If you want, you can add some drops of liquid blue food colour to some decorating sugar to make them blue. Be careful not to clump the sugar and let it dry before using it.

The portion sizes are just estimations; it will always depend on the size of your glasses and how much ice you add in the case of blended cocktails. The best thing about cocktails is that you can always make them based on your taste. Do you prefer longer drinks? Add more lemonade or juice. Do you like it more slushie style? Add more ice to the blender.

If you make an ice-blended cocktail, ensure your blender is suitable for blending ice.

Some recipes call for lemonade; you can use store-bought, but we always prefer the homemade version. You can find a simple syrup and a home-made lemonade recipe after the mocktails.

ALCOHOLIC COCKTAIL

BLUE ALCOHOLIC DRINKS



BLUE GIN TONIC

2 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 60 ml/ 2 fl. oz. gin
- 1 tbsp lime juice
- 120 ml/ 4 fl. oz. Tonic water
- 30 ml/ 1 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao

PREPARATION

1. Combine all ingredients with ice in a shaker and stir it.
2. Strain the drinks into ice-filled glasses.
3. Decorate them.

ALCOHOLIC COCKTAIL



BLUE HAWAIIAN COOLER

3 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 120 ml/ 4 fl. oz. light rum
- 120 ml/ 4 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao
- 60 ml/ 2 fl. oz. coconut rum
- 60 ml/ 2 fl. oz. cream or coconut cream
- 60 ml/ 2 fl. oz. pineapple juice
- Handful of ice

PREPARATION

1. Combine all ingredients with ice in a blender and blend until smooth.
2. Serve it in glasses and decorate them.

ALCOHOLIC COCKTAIL

FROZEN BLUE MOSCATO MARGARITAS

4 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 2-3 handfuls of ice
- 240 ml/ 8 fl. oz. Moscato or any sweet wine
- 240 ml/ 8 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao
- 120 ml/ 4 fl. oz. tequila
- 2 tbsp. lime juice
- 1 tbsp. granulated sugar for rimming
- 1 tbsp. salt for rimming
- Lime wedges for rimming

PREPARATION

1. On a small plate, mix the sugar and the salt. Rim your glasses with a lime wedge, then dip them in the sugar-salt mixture.
2. Pour the Moscato, Curaçao, tequila and lime juice in a blender. Add the ice and blend until smooth. (If the mixture is too loose, add more ice until you have the preferred consistency.)
3. Divide the mixture between the glasses; be careful with the decorated rim. Garnish them as you prefer.



ALCOHOLIC COCKTAIL



TIFFANY MIMOSAS

Yields: 10 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbsp granulated sugar for rimming
- 1 lemon wedge for rimming
- 60 ml/ 2 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao, divided (a splash per glass)
- 1 bottle of cold Champagne or Prosecco
- 480 ml/ 16 fl. oz. cold lemonade, divided
- Ice if you prefer your drinks ice-cold

PREPARATION

1. Put the sugar in a small plate. Rim your glasses with a lime wedge, then dip them in the sugar.
2. Add a splash of Blue Curaçao to each glass.
3. Fill halfway with the prosecco or champagne, then top with lemonade.
4. If you prefer ice-cold drinks, you can add ice cubes too.

ALCOHOLIC COCKTAIL



TROPICAL MERMAID LEMONADE

Yields: 3 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 3 tablespoons of raspberry syrup
- 60 ml/ 2 fl.oz. Blue Curaçao
- 180 ml/ 6 fl.oz. white rum
- 360 ml/ 12 fl.oz. lemonade
- Ice

PREPARATION

1. Add 1-1 tablespoon of raspberry syrup to each glasses.
2. Add 1-2 ice cubes and divide the Blue Curaçao between the glasses.
3. Divide the white rum too and pour into the glasses carefully to keep the layers.
4. Fill the glasses carefully with ice and slowly top them with lemonade.
5. Decorate the glasses as your wish.

BLUE MOCKTAILS (NON-ALCOHOLIC COCKTAILS)

TIPS:

If you want to make beautiful blue-coloured non-alcoholic drinks, you have several options. Remember that natural options might not give you such vibrant blue colours as artificial blue colourants.

BLUE CURAÇAO SYRUP:

The easiest way to swap the alcoholic version of the classic Blue Curaçao is to use the syrup version. It is commercially available in most of the countries. This is the best way to achieve the same colour and flavour in non-alcoholic mocktails but without the alcohol content.

BLUE FOOD COLOURING:

You can use liquid blue food colouring if you don't want the taste of Blue Curaçao. Remember, every brand is different, it is wise to start with small amounts and add more till you reach the desired colour. Be aware that some food colourants are acid-sensitive; the colours can change when you add lemon or other acidic fruits.

BLUE ICE CUBES:

An upgraded version of using blue food colour if you make blue water and freeze it. The cubes will add a blue shade to your drink as the ice melts.

Blue butterfly pea flower tea:

Try blue butterfly pea flower tea if you prefer to use something less synthetic. Did you know it is also called Asian pigeonwings? What better choice you can have.

The flowers of the *Clitoria ternatea* plant are used to make blue tea, which changes to purple as the pH level changes to more acidic. You can experiment with adding lemon or other citrus fruits.

BLUEBERRY JUICE:

Another option is the use of blueberry juice. It won't give you a vibrant blue shade, but if you love the taste and the purplish hue is good for you, give it a try!

NON-ALCOHOLIC COCKTAILS



BLUE LAGOON MOCKTAIL

Yields: 3 servings

INGREDIENTS

- Ice cubes
- 30 ml/ 1 fl. oz. freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 50 ml/ 1.7 fl. oz grapefruit juice
- 30 ml/ 1 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao syrup
- 100 ml/ 3.4 fl. oz. home-made lemonade

PREPARATION

1. Put ice into 3 glasses.
2. Pour the Curaçao syrup, the lemonade and the grapefruit juice in a cocktail shaker and stir it gently.
3. Divide it between the glasses.
4. Decorate the glasses as you prefer.

NON-ALCOHOLIC COCKTAILS

VIRGIN BLUE MARGARITA MOCKTAIL

Yields: 1 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 15 ml/ 0.5 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao syrup
- 15 ml/ 0.5 fl. oz. freshly squeezed lime juice
- 60 ml/ 2 fl. oz. home-made lemonade
- 1 tbsp salt for rimming
- 1 tbsp sugar for rimming
- Lemon wedges for rimming
- Ice

PREPARATION

1. Mix the salt and sugar on a small plate. Rim your glasses with a lemon wedge, and then dip them in the mix.
2. Add a handful of ice and all the ingredients in a cocktail shaker.
3. Shake it till it is cold.
4. Strain it and pour it into the rimmed glasses.
5. Decorate more if you'd like to.



NON-ALCOHOLIC COCKTAILS



VIRGIN BLUE PIÑA COLADA

Yields: 3 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 200 g/ 7 oz. frozen pineapple
- 150 ml/ 5 fl. oz. coconut cream
- 45 ml/ 1.5 fl. oz. Blue Curaçao syrup
- 250 ml/ 8.5 fl. oz. pineapple juice

PREPARATION

1. Add all the ingredients into a blender and blend it till smooth.
2. Serve it in glasses and decorate them.

NON-ALCOHOLIC COCKTAILS



BLUE MERMAID TONIC MOCKTAIL

Yields: 1 servings

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon of raspberry syrup
- 1 tablespoon of Blue Curaçao syrup
- 80 ml/ 3 fl. oz. lemonade
- 80 ml/ 3 fl. oz. tonic water
- ice

PREPARATION

1. Add 1 tablespoon of raspberry syrup to your glass.
2. Add 1-2 ice cubes and add the Blue Curaçao syrup too.
3. Pour the lemonade too, carefully, to keep the layers.
4. Add more ice till the rim and slowly top your drink with tonic water.
5. Decorate the glasses as you prefer.

EXTRA RECIPES FOR THE COCKTAILS:

HOME-MADE LEMONADE

INGREDIENTS

- 2 lemons
- The zest of 1 lemon
- 500 ml/ 17 fl. oz. water
- 4 tablespoons of simple syrup (or depending on how sweet you like your lemonade)

PREPARATION

1. Squeeze the lemon juice and add the zest.
2. Add 500 ml/ 17 fl. oz. water
3. Add the simple syrup and stir it well.
4. If you don't like pulp and zest, you can strain the lemonade before you add them to your cocktails.

SIMPLE SYRUP

INGREDIENTS

- 200 g/ 7 oz. sugar
- 200 ml/ 7 fl. oz. water

PREPARATION

1. Combine the sugar and water in a small saucepan.
2. Heat the mixture up, making sure it won't caramelize.
3. Let it cool, and pour it into a jar. Add some to your lemonade or cocktails till it is sweet enough for your taste.

CROWNED-PIGEON CAKE



For the crowned-pigeon cake, it is enough to add blue food colouring to the cream of your favourite cake recipe, which uses white cream. The almond-shaped spots around the eyes and the beak are made of black fondant, and the eyes can be any red berry, lyophilized cherry, or a bigger candy if it is red.

For the bird's crown, cut out 2 quarter circles from thick blue cardboard, cut the curved edge into a wavy shape, and then draw the feathers on both sides of the paper.

Pin the crowns to the centre of the cake only before serving.

In our experience, the cake looks better if it is made of smaller layers and is taller than if it is based on larger diameter layers and is a flatter cake.

We successfully tried the crowned-pigeon cake with the following 3-layer cocoa sponge cake recipe filled with American buttercream and jam. You can find more tips for making it after the recipe.

Ingredients for 3 cake tins with a diameter of 17 cm (about 6.7 in)

CAKE

- 9 eggs, separated
- 195 g/ 7 oz. sugar
- 1.5 tbsp vanilla extract
- 75 g/ 2.6 oz. melted butter
- 75 g/ 2.6 oz. unsweetened cocoa powder
- 15 g/ 0.5 oz. baking powder
- 150 g/ 5.3 oz. plain flour
- Pinch of salt and a bit of lemon juice for the egg whites

AMERICAN BUTTERCREAM

- 340 g/12 oz. butter, room temperature
- 630 g/ 22 oz. Powdered sugar, sifted
- 3 tsp. Vanilla extract
- 3 tbsp. cream
- 1/3 tsp. salt
- Blue food colouring (we used powdered)
- Berry jam, we used raspberry (do not mix this into the cream)

DECORATION

- Black fondant for the eye spots and for the beak
- Toothpicks to attach the beak
- Dark blue cardstock paper for the crown
- Black marker

PREPARATION

CAKE LAYERS

1. It is best to bake the sponge cake layers individually. Use a third of the specified amount for each layer, preferably making the batter separately so the egg whites won't collapse.
2. Preheat the oven to 175 degrees Celsius (fan)
3. Beat the egg yolks with the sugar and vanilla extract until almost white, then add the melted butter too.
4. Mix the flour, cocoa powder and baking powder in a separate bowl.
5. In a third bowl, whisk the egg whites with a pinch of salt and a little bit of lemon juice until they form stiff peaks.
6. Gently combine the two egg foams, then bit by bit, fold the flour-cocoa-baking powder mix into the batter, creating a smooth texture.
7. Pour the mixture into a cake tin lined with baking paper. Try to create a little bit of a crater shape; this will help the cake to rise more evenly.
8. Put it in the oven for 25 min or until a needle comes out clean.

AMERICAN BUTTERCREAM

1. Cream the butter with a hand mixer until it is almost white.
2. Add the sifted powdered sugar one spoon at a time, scraping down the edge of your bowl, ensuring each sugar portion is fully incorporated.
3. Add the vanilla extract, salt, and cream and mix well.
4. Add the food colouring till you reach the desired depth. You can experiment deepening the colour with a tip down below.

ASSEMBLING THE CAKE

1. Take a portion of the cream at room temperature in a separate bowl. It is used for crumb-coating the cake, so having a smaller portion and adding more later is better.
2. Apply a little cream to the cake tray to attach the first layer, preventing the cake from sliding. Put a layer of cream on it, forming a small rim, then put a couple of tablespoons of jam on it. The rim prevents the jam from spilling out.
3. Place the middle cake layer on top, then repeat the cream-jam step.

4. Place the third layer on top, then cover the cake thinly with the remaining cream. This layer doesn't have to be nice and thick; it just serves the purpose of letting the crumbs stick to it.
5. Put the cake into the fridge for 20 minutes.
6. Cover the cake evenly with the leftover cream.
7. Form the beak from the fondant and attach it to the cake with a toothpick.
8. Cut two almond-shaped eye patches from a 3-5 mm thick black fondant, then place them on the cake. Attach the red eyes to the fondant with a tiny amount of cream.
9. Just before serving, insert the bird's crown into the centre of the cake.

TIPS

- Once they are cooled down, the cake layers should be placed in an airtight container or wrapped in beeswax cloths, and stored in the refrigerator until the cake is assembled.
- It may seem like a bold idea, but if you want the colour of the food colouring to be brighter, you should put the buttercream in the microwave for 20-30 seconds. It should be partially melted but not liquid. This will liquefy the cream a little, but if you put it back in the fridge and let it cool back a bit, you can beat it up again. The cream will have a beautiful, deep colour. Don't be alarmed if the cream initially seems to curdle; after thoroughly mixing, it comes together nicely and is ready for use at room temperature.
- The cream can be prepared in advance and stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for a week.
- Be careful with blue food colouring and coloured cream, it tends to stain everything you touch.

SIMPLE FRUIT SALAD



Fruit is the main part of crowned-pigeons' diet. Do you want to get a taste of what these magnificent birds eat? Try the fruit salad recipe below!

INGREDIENTS

Look around your home for some good seasonal fruits.

For example, cantaloupes, pears, blueberries, cherries, and sour cherries are good choices: they're tasty, not too soft, and won't fall apart. But if you have pineapple, papaya or oranges at home, that's great too!

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Wash everything thoroughly under running water but be careful not to use too much water!
2. Cut the fruit into smaller pieces if necessary, such as cantaloupes and pears. Cut the cherries in half and remove the pits. (If you're adding grapes, you can do the same - if they're seedless, just cut them in half). Small berries can go in whole. Be careful, if the knife is too sharp, ask an adult for help!
3. When you're done, check the fridge again to see if there's any fruit left to put in the fruit salad. Try to avoid food waste!
4. Gently mix the prepared fruit in a suitable container. Be careful not to break them! And there you have it, a fruit mix that crowned-pigeons would love to eat too!
5. If it is a summer day, and the weather is hot, it's good to have plenty of liquid, so you can make your salad even more delicious. Just add chilled fruit tea or black tea that you've prepared beforehand. (You can add store-bought fruit juice if you like, but think about the environmental impact of the cartons!)
6. Once chilled, it's ready to eat – enjoy!

+1. Don't throw away the shells, peels, seeds, and other leftovers! If you can, compost them or give them to an animal that will enjoy them.



LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS - CROWNED-PIGEON INSPIRED GASTRO IDEAS

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CROWNED-PIGEON CAKE

12. Photo by Borbála Kocsis

SIMPLE FRUIT SALAD

13-21. Photo by István Mező

22. Sclater's crowned-pigeon (*Goura sclaterii*) by Manh Hung Ngo, Unsplash

