# WebQuest: A Bird's Eye View

**Introduction**

In the book, you read about many birds young Jean loved to observe, sketch, and study. Some of those same birds are now listed on the Endangered Species List. In this WebQuest, you will learn about birds in your state that are endangered or threatened and then create a poster or write a public service announcement that details a protection plan for the species.

**Process**

**Step 1**

Visit the websites, shown below, to learn about endangered or threatened birds in your state, other states, and countries around the world. (How many of them are the same ones Jean studied and illustrated?)

Pick one bird on your state's endangered or threatened bird species list and do some research about it on these or other websites and/or in books. Be sure to learn the reason(s) that the bird is listed as an endangered or threatened species. Take notes about these and other things that you find interesting and important.

**Websites:**

- Endangered Specie.com
  http://www.endangeredspecie.com
  Click *Endangered Species in Your State.* Then click your state on the U.S. map. Note that this list is not complete. To find an updated listing, visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service site.

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: The Endangered Species Program
  http://www.fws.gov/endangered/
  Click *List of Threatened and Endangered Species* on the left side of the page. Then Click *Birds* (under *Vertebrate Animals*). You can then conduct a search for one or more bird species.

- State of the Birds USA
  http://www.audubon.org/bird/stateofthebirds/index.html
  Click the links on the left side of the page to learn more about the state of birds living in various habitats (e.g., grasslands, woodlands). Click *Audubon WatchList* to learn which bird species are currently at greatest risk.

- The Endangered Species Act and What We Do
  http://www.fws.gov/endangered/whatwedo.html
  Read the *Endangered Species Act* and then scroll to the bottom of the page and click *Kid's Corner.* View *Endangered Means There is Still Time* slide show.

- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**
  http://www.epa.gov

  Click *For Kids* on the left side of the page. Then click the *Plants and Animals* link, then *Save Our Species* link, then click any bird picture to learn more. (At the top of the page, in small letters, you can click links to get information about the species, pesticides, and other environmental effects.)

- **Audubon's Birds of America**
  http://www.audubon.org/bird/BoA/BOA_index.html
  Click *Enter*, then click *Alphabetical List of Bird Image Plates* to see if the bird you are writing about was illustrated by John James Audubon! If it is, click the small bird graphic on the right side to see his illustration.


**Step 2**
Decide whether you will create a poster or write a (pretend) public service announcement script that tells about your plan to protect the species.

**Step 3**
Use the information you gathered in Step 1 to create your poster or to write a script for your public service announcement. Remember to include in your poster or in your public service announcement the reasons why the bird is endangered or threatened. (Examples might include habitat destruction, over-hunting, air or water pollution, dwindling food sources, or other factors.) Give details of your recommended protection plan and be sure to describe why you think your plan is a good idea.

**Step 4**
If you made a poster—decide how you will present it to the class. You will want to describe all parts of the poster so that everyone understands all drawings, labels, or writing you have on it.
If you wrote a public service announcement script—rehearse it so that you can perform it for the class. You might choose to read or to memorize the script for your performance.

**Step 5**
If you made a poster, hang it up and present it to the class. If you wrote a public service announcement, perform it for the class.