

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher Sheet: Bird Banding Reveals

✓Fledglings

Use the "Brief History of Bird Banding" page to complete questions 2-3

1. What is bird banding?

Bird banding is a method of bird monitoring to track bird populations and demographic trends over time.

2. When was the first bird reported to have been banded?

In 1595, one of Henry IV's banded Peregrine Falcons was lost in France. The bird showed up 24 hours later and 1350 miles away in Malta, traveling an average of 56 miles per hour. Duke Ferdinand placed a band on a Grey Heron in 1669, the same bird was found by his grandson in 1728. That heron lived to be at least 60 years old!

3. Who was the first person in North America to band birds?

John James Audubon. In 1803, he tied cords around the legs of a brood of phoebes near Philadelphia and was able to identify two of the birds when they returned the following year.

Use the "How Many Birds Are Banded" page to complete questions 4-5

4. What is the total number of birds that have been banded? Approximately how many birds are banded each year?

57 million birds total have been banded. There are approximately 1.1 million birds banded each year.

5. In 2001, How many ducks and nongame birds were banded? What group of nongame birds had the highest banding number, the lowest, and what are the numbers?

222,006 ducks and 689,019 nongame birds were banded in 2001. Vireos and Warblers had the highest banding number of 131,110 and Eagles had the lowest banding number of 539.