

'Flocking game'

Teacher notes. Water birds act in special ways to avoid being the pray of predators. In this activity, pupils examine predator/prey relationships through an interactive game.

- The players arrange themselves in a circle. A plastic bag full of folded old newspapers is thrown in the circle. The players represent reedbeds and the bag represents a water bird flying between them.
- One player is asked to stand in the middle of the circle. He or she is a predator. Can the player catch the water bird?
- The players discuss how the bird's flight strategy changes when the predator is introduced. Did the water bird 'fly' higher o faster between the reedbeds?
- Thre are a lots of variations for subsequent rounds of this game. What does it happen when several predators are introduced? What happens if several bags are thrown around (simulating a flock of water birds)? Is there safety (or greater predator success) in numbers?
- Follow up discussing animal attack and defence strategies.

Vocabulary	Structures
Pray/predator Reed bed Flight strategy Straight flight / sideways flight / waved flight To chase	Comparatives