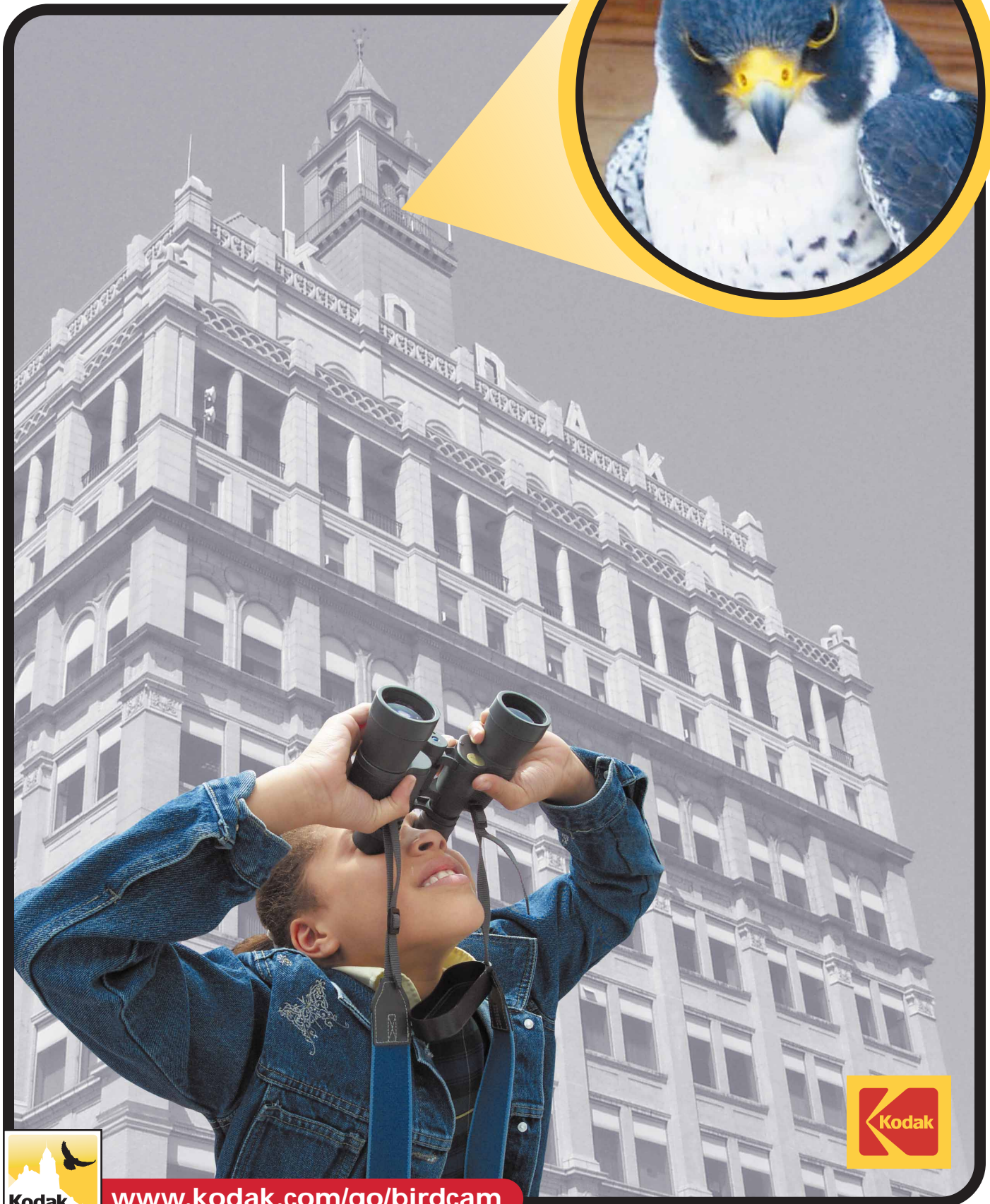


# **Kodak Birdcam Curriculum for Teachers & Educators**

*Courtesy of Eastman Kodak Company*

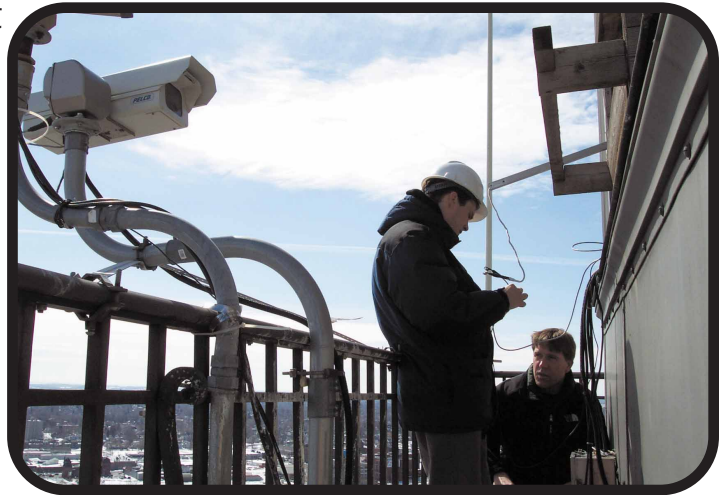


[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)



# Introduction

Since 1998, a man-made nest box on top of Kodak Tower has been the focus of activity and interest of many teachers and students, as well as falcon fans around the globe. Here, Peregrine Falcons Mariah and Cabot-Sirocco (for the first four years) and Mariah and Kaver (since 2002) have produced and nurtured six clutches of twenty-one offspring. We collectively watched and documented the nesting, incubation, hatching, and maturation of each of these clutches.



About 30 years ago pesticides – particularly the now-banned DDT – spread through the food chain topped by the Peregrines. They began dying out as a species and were declared doomed when only 39 breeding pairs were recorded. Wildlife scientists put them on the endangered species list and worked to bring them back.

Kodak's involvement with the nesting of falcons began in early 1995. The nest box was placed on the peak of the Kodak Office Tower, Kodak's global headquarters in Rochester, New York. This location was described as "a perfect nesting place with tons of nooks and crannies."

Peregrine Falcons are making a successful comeback and have been delisted from the federal endangered species list. But they remain on the New York State endangered list. Kodak is proud to play a part in the recovery of these magnificent birds.

It is our hope that you and your students, in the process of learning about falcons, will enjoy witnessing their lifecycle in your very own classroom via the Kodak Birdcam.

*Birdman*



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# Objectives

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The Kodak Birdcam website provides a fantastic opportunity to expose students to an endangered species and how Peregrine Falcons fit into the ecosystem.

This packet includes activities that can enhance the following skills:

- Researching a topic on the Internet
- Speaking effectively
- Writing a report and a bibliography
- Creating a visual representation of a topic
- Demonstrating newfound knowledge by creating photo captions
- Enhancing reading comprehension



# Kid Friendly Falcon Facts

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- It is the fastest animal in the world. One bird was clocked at 217 miles per hour. Their small heads make them swift.
- They used to be called duck hawks because they occasionally eat ducks.
- Peregrine Falcons are found on every continent except Antarctica.
- A Peregrine Falcon's wingspan is three feet (approximately one meter).
- A new baby Falcon that hatched is wet and the down feathers are clumped together.
- A pesticide called DDT, which is now banned, got into the food chain and caused the eggshells to grow thin and break. This reduced the Falcon population almost to extinction.
- Their eggs are cream colored with brown spots and are about the size of ping-pong balls.
- Peregrine Falcons nest in high places, like cliffs and tall buildings in cities that remind them of their natural habitat.
- In the eastern U.S., the Peregrine had already become extinct by 1970.
- For centuries, Peregrine Falcons were prized by kings and falconers for their hunting abilities.
- Peregrine Falcons are ready to fly when they turn six weeks old.
- The word Peregrine means "wanderer." Some Peregrines migrate thousands of miles each year.



# More Kid Friendly Falcon Facts

- The male and female have the same markings, but the female is about one third larger and stronger than the male.
- Peregrines are 22 to 24 inches (56 to 61 cm) long and weigh about two pounds.
- Their nests are called scrapes.
- They typically lay three to four eggs in the spring.
- An adult Falcon eats one bird a day, including water fowl, shore birds, and pigeons.
- Falcons may live as long as 20 years.



[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)

# Peregrine Falcon Activities

- Research the Peregrine Falcon names at Kodak.com and choose which one you like best and why. Give a one to two minute talk to your class on this subject.



- Find out how the Peregrine Falcon almost became extinct based on facts. Create a song, rap, or poem on the subject.
- Draw a picture of the Peregrine Falcon, and explain what it is doing in the picture. Use facts to write the captions.
- Make a Peregrine Falcon out of a paper bag, sock, newspaper, or paper maché. Use realistic measurements and label whether it is a male or female.
- Study other birds of prey, and create a teaching poster showing similarities and differences.
- Use a map of the world to show where Peregrine Falcons live. Show by presentation or color-coding a blank map.
- Find out about other cities that participate in the Peregrine Falcon recovery project. Send the information to the Kodak Birdcam website to: [birdman@kodak.com](mailto:birdman@kodak.com)
- Create a teaching poster for display using 5 to 10 facts from the Kodak Birdcam. Include three illustrations.
- Use a shoebox to 1) show a Peregrine Falcon's environment 2) create a nesting box like the one on the Kodak office tower and ones in other cities.



[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)

www.kodak.com - Thu, May 15, 2003 12:20 EDT | 64F18C

# Falcon Mother Feeding Eyases



[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)

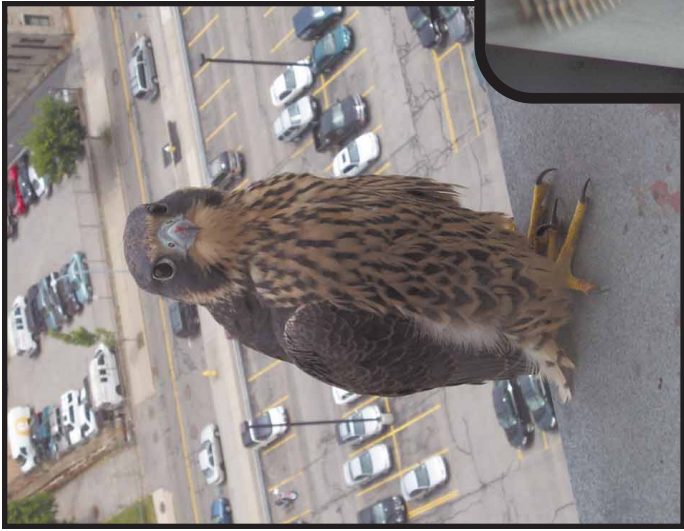
# Falcon Eyas Being Banded



[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)







[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)

# Falcon Development



[www.kodak.com/go/birdcam](http://www.kodak.com/go/birdcam)

# Quiz - Part 1

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Using complete sentences, write the answers in the space provided.

1. When diving in the air, what speed can a Peregrine Falcon reach?
2. What does DDT do to the Peregrine Falcon's eggs?
3. Where can you find Peregrine Falcons in the world?
4. Explain the difference between the male and female Peregrine Falcon.
5. Why do you think it is important for humans to help with the Peregrine Falcon's recovery?
6. Why is a box on a building in the city a good place for the Falcons to nest?



## Quiz - Part 2

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Pick the correct answer.

1. When are Peregrine Falcons ready to fly? When they are:

- a. 1 year old
- b. 6 weeks old
- c. 2 months old
- d. 1 week old

2. How long can a Peregrine Falcon live?

- a. 50 years
- b. 4 years
- c. 100 years
- d. 20 years

3. What does the word "Peregrine" mean?

- a. wanderer
- b. two smiles
- c. high flyer
- d. All of the above



# Quiz - Part 3

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Fill in the blanks using the following words:

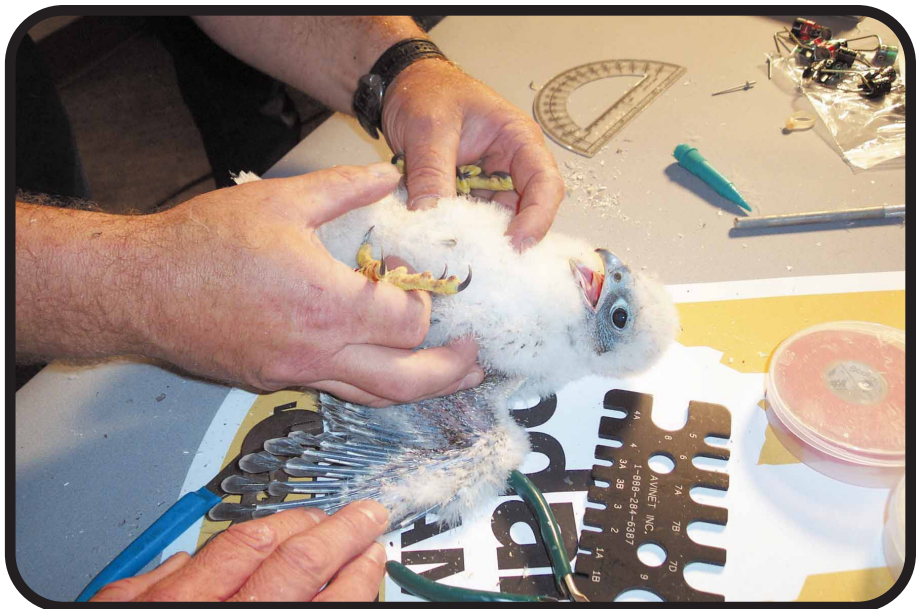
*hawks*

*inches*

*Falcons*

*scrape*

Peregrine \_\_\_\_\_ are the fastest animals in the world. They are 22 to 24 \_\_\_\_\_ long. They usually lay 3 to 4 eggs at a time in a \_\_\_\_\_. They used to be known as duck \_\_\_\_\_.



# ***Bibliography for Peregrine Falcons***

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Roy, Ron. *The Falcon's Feathers*. New York: Random House, 1998.



# Web Resources

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The Canadian Peregrine Foundation is a non-profit organization devoted to the restoration and recovery of endangered and threatened birds of prey in Canada. The site has a wealth of information plus links to numerous webcams.

<http://www.peregrine-foundation.ca/>

Chicago Academy of Sciences - The Chicago Peregrine Release and Restoration Project. The site includes: how to identify the Peregrine Falcon, decline of Peregrines, and recovery efforts.

<http://www.chias.org/biology/cpr.html>

Illinois Raptor Center. A Pictorial Guide to Illinois Birds. Factual information and history of the effects of DDT.

<http://www.illinoisraptorcenter.org/Field%20Guide/peregrine.html>

Pennsylvania Game Commission. Peregrine Falcon Research Study. The site has an abundance of information with a few video clips.

[http://sites.state.pa.us/PA\\_Exec/PGC/falcon/](http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PGC/falcon/)

Texas Parks & Wildlife, Nature - Threatened and Endangered Species. Brief discussion of the Peregrine Falcon with sightings listed for Texas.

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/nature/endang/animals/birds/peregrin.htm>



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# Credits & More

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Photographs: Courtesy of Eastman Kodak Company

A special thanks to Ms. Susan Long's 5th Grade Class at Durand-Eastman Intermediate School in East Irondequoit, New York, for their continued support and contributions to this curriculum.

## ***A Special Opportunity***

Each year we choose a classroom to suggest a name for one of the falcons in that year's clutch. We are interested in knowing how you incorporate Birdcam into your classroom. Please share your stories and pictures on how Birdcam has been included in your curriculum. Send submissions to: [birdman@kodak.com](mailto:birdman@kodak.com)

Perhaps your students will be selected to have the honor of choosing a name. Good luck!

***"I want to thank you and Kodak for the fantastic opportunity that you gave to my class and to myself. This was truly a life experience event that none of us will ever forget!"***

Mrs. Nancy Reid  
First Grade Teacher  
Charles L. Avery School  
Oak Park, Michigan

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