CLOSE OBSERVATION ACTIVITY

Exhibit Connection: Beneath a Wild Sky: Stories of America’s Lost Birds

From Home

Beneath a Wild Sky: Stories of America’s Lost Birds

Be a scientist:

Closely observe these three images of the now-extinct Ivory-billed Woodpecker. Circle or list three things that are the same and three things that are different in each image.

**Same**

1. Bright red crown of the woodpecker

**Different**

1. Three different species in Alexander Wilson’s image

Mark Catesby - 1730 - The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands

John James Audubon - 1830 - The Birds of America

Alexander Wilson - 1810 - American Ornithology

Mark Catesby - 1730 - The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands
What Did We Learn?

✓ All three artists drew the same bird during their lifetimes.
✓ These scientific illustrators included special details in their art that helped provide clues (evidence) as to what these birds ate, how they perched on a tree, and even some idea of how they moved.
✓ The Ivory-billed Woodpecker is now extinct, but we can help keep other birds from going extinct by taking some simple but effective actions recommended by Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

More Activities
Tell a story about what the birds in each image are doing and why.
Be a naturalist: Go outside with an adult, explore, and draw the birds you see.