



## Third Grade Crane Educational Video Guide Teacher Notes

### Complete this side of the guide before you watch the video:

This side of the worksheet will allow students to consider what they already know about cranes, their habitat and habits. There are no right or wrong answers. Students should be given 15 to 20 minutes for this part.

1. Have you ever seen a sandhill crane? *Describe* or *draw* a crane below. If you have never seen one, use your imagination.
2. There are sandhill cranes in the Yampa Valley. Where do you think you might find them?
3. What do you think cranes eat?
4. What animal enemies might cranes have? How might they protect themselves and their families?
5. Cranes are not visible during the winter. Why do you think this is so?
6. What other big birds do we have in the Yampa Valley?





**After watching the video possible answers:**

1. What new information did you learn about cranes from watching the video?

*Answers will vary depending on student's prior experiences.*

2. What surprised you about the sandhill crane?

*Answers will vary depending on student's prior experiences*

3. Why is a wetland an important habitat for the crane?

*Provides food, protection(camouflage), materials for nest, safe area to build nest*

4. What characteristics does a crane have to help it survive in its environment?

*Large wings, sharp beak, claws, long neck, distinctive call, coloration*

5. Describe how a crane dances.

*Bow, spin, jump, stand on one foot and then the other, flap wings, toss head back and then call*

6. How are cranes, herons and geese the same? How are they different?

*Same: large birds in NW Colorado, hard to tell the difference from a far distance*

*Differences:*

*-herons have an "S" curve to their necks when flying; herons nest in trees*

*-herons have a long plume extending from their heads, cranes have a red patch on their heads; -- -*

*-herons nest in trees, cranes and geese nest on land;*

*-geese are smaller than cranes,*

*-geese flap their wings quickly in flight, cranes flap their wings slowly.*

7. What can you do to help protect the sandhill crane here in the Yampa Valley?

- *Observe from a distance*
- *Keep pets away from cranes and their nesting site*
- *Protect wetlands from litter and other damage*
- *Educate family and friends about protecting crane*

