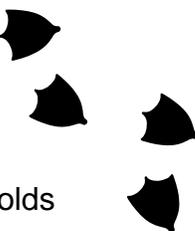


## “Discovery” Worksheet



### Discovery Room: (Inside Room)

1. Look at a flight feather with the hand lens and notice the barbs. What holds these **individual barbs** together? Hooks and catches hold the barbs together.
2. How many different **types** of nests are on display? 2 Name the **types** adherent, cup
3. Why are eggs **different shapes** and **colors**? Shapes and colors depend on how the bird lives. For example, birds that lay eggs on the ground are well camouflaged to fool predators. Birds that nest on cliffs lay pointed eggs that tend to roll in circles instead of off the cliff.
4. Look at the skulls. What kind of mammal does **not** have canine teeth? Muskrat, beaver, jackrabbit, deer
5. Examine the owl pellet display. Make two drawings of bones found:
6. Study the Eagle mount. Eagles **do not** normally feed on live, healthy birds. Why do you think this eagle has a mallard in its clutches? Eagles are opportunistic feeders and will take whatever is easiest to obtain. This Mallard could have been sick or old therefore easy to catch.

### Visitor Center: (Diorama Area)

1. Why is it important to keep water in **permanent ponds** all year long on the Refuge? Resident wildlife uses permanent ponds all year long, especially once seasonal marshes are drained.
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2. Notice the American bittern in the **watergrass** section. Why do you think it is posed this way and what is the purpose of its coloration? If approached or startled the bittern will hold still and stretch its neck up and sway back and forth to imitate waving reeds, which fools predators.

3. Flying over the **seasonal marsh** are some pintail ducks. Notice the different coloration. What is the advantage or reason for this difference? Females have neutral colors to help hide from predators, which is essential while nesting. Males have brighter colors to attract females for mating.

4. **Uplands** habitat is home for many animals other than those shown here.

Name two other animals that would feel at home in this habitat: Coyote, black-tailed deer, jackrabbit, ground squirrel

**Kiosk Panels:** (Outside)

1. What has been the **biggest problem** for wetlands? Disappearing wetlands, caused by development

2. **Why** was the Sacramento NWR established? To provide a winter home for birds and to help prevent damage to farm crops.

3. What is the **name** of the plan that helps North American waterfowl? North American Waterfowl Management Plan

4. Where do most of the geese found at Sacramento NWR during the winter **nest**? Alaska and Russia (U.S.S.R.)

