

Grade Three Sample Test Item—Listening

Achievement Level: Standard Met

Birds' Nest Safari (Excerpt from *Birds' Nest Safari* by Judyann Grant. Copyright Highlights Magazine. Reprinted with permission of Highlights for Children.) Listen to the presentation. Then answer the questions.

Please note that the following text would not appear on the actual test. Since this is a listening item, the text would be recorded, and students would listen to a recording of the text.

In this presentation, you will hear a speaker talk about birds' nests. Listen to the presentation and then answer the questions that follow.

A good time to spot birds' nests is after the leaves have fallen and the birds have gone. Many times, you can tell which kind of bird made a nest. To do that, notice where you see the nest, the shape of the nest, and what things were used to build it.

You may not see nests the first time out. Don't give up. Some birds hide their nests to keep their babies safe. With patience and practice, you will spot their nests.

House wrens build their nests in small hollowed-out places. They are not too choosy about where they build. They have even used old boots and the pockets of scarecrows' shirts.

Gray catbirds prefer to build in briar patches and other thickets. Their nests are loosely made of weed stalks, leaves, and twigs. These birds use strips of grapevine bark inside their deeply cupped "cradle."

The orioles' pouch-nest is one of the easiest to spot. It looks like a bag swinging at the end of a branch. The slightest breeze sends it swaying.

In a notebook, write down each place and tree where you spotted a nest. Draw a picture of it. In the spring, you can note which birds return to build new nests.

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Grade Three Sample Test Item—Listening
Achievement Level: Standard Met (continued)

What does the speaker hope the listener will learn from the presentation? Pick **two** choices.

- A. how to find birds’ nests
- B. how to build birds’ nests
- C. how to draw birds’ nests
- D. how to tell birds’ nests apart
- E. how to keep birds’ nests safe

Area	Listening Demonstrating effective communication skills
Standard(s)	Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
Answer	A (how to find birds’ nests) and D (how to tell birds’ nests apart) Note: Students must identify both A and D to receive the full point. There is no partial credit on selected response (i.e., multiple choice) items.