**Reading a Bird Specimen**

What can you learn from this specimen? Discuss observations and questions with your group. Write your answers in the space provided.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Questions to ask** | **Answers and thoughts** |
| ***Collection Notes*** |  |
| Does the specimen have a label, tag, or other informational piece attached? What information does the label tell you about the specimen? |  |
| What kind of bird is this? What genus and species? |  |
| ***Physical Features*** |  |
| Describe the whole body shape and size. Include a sketch. |  |
| What is the primary color scheme? Describe and/or sketch any special patterns or markings. |  |
| Look closely at each physical feature and describe them in detail:* Beak
* Feet/Talons
* Plumage
* Wings

For each inherited physical feature above, give a detailed deduction of how it helps the bird adapt to its habitat. |  |
| In which Zion ecosystem would you expect to find the bird? (desert grassland, riparian, pinyon-juniper forest, or high plateau forest) |  |
| Explain and justify your choice of ecosystem. |  |