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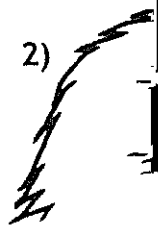
The bird world contains an amazing variety of birds. The beak of a bird is covered by a horny plate called keratin. A hooked beak is used to tear meat since birds of prey are specifically adapted for the food they eat. Some birds are used to break the neck vertebrae of their prey and neck muscles to help tear apart the meat.

These birds have a soft and fleshy tongue. This is an adaptation that helps meat-eating birds keep their bills clean than feathers.

### At-Home Activity

Not all birds eat the same kinds of food. Some are granivores and eat seeds and grains. Some are omnivores or a combination of foods. Try this activity to see what your birds prefer. Place cracked corn, bird seed, and other foods in shallow dishes. Stand inside and watch your birds eat each food. Be sure to clean up the dishes, especially if the temperature is warm.

Birds perform a variety of tasks. A line to match the bird to its tool. Then color.



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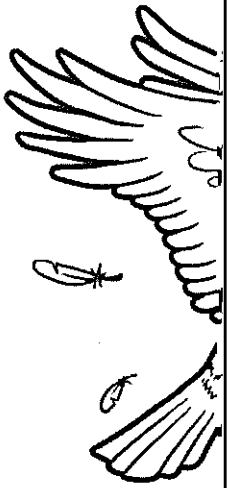


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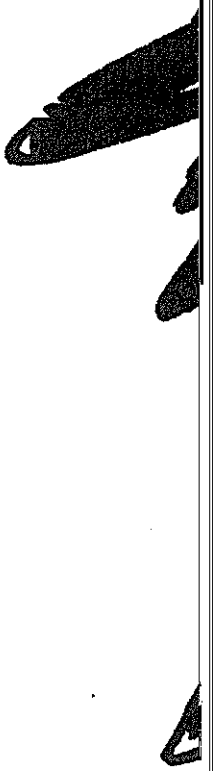
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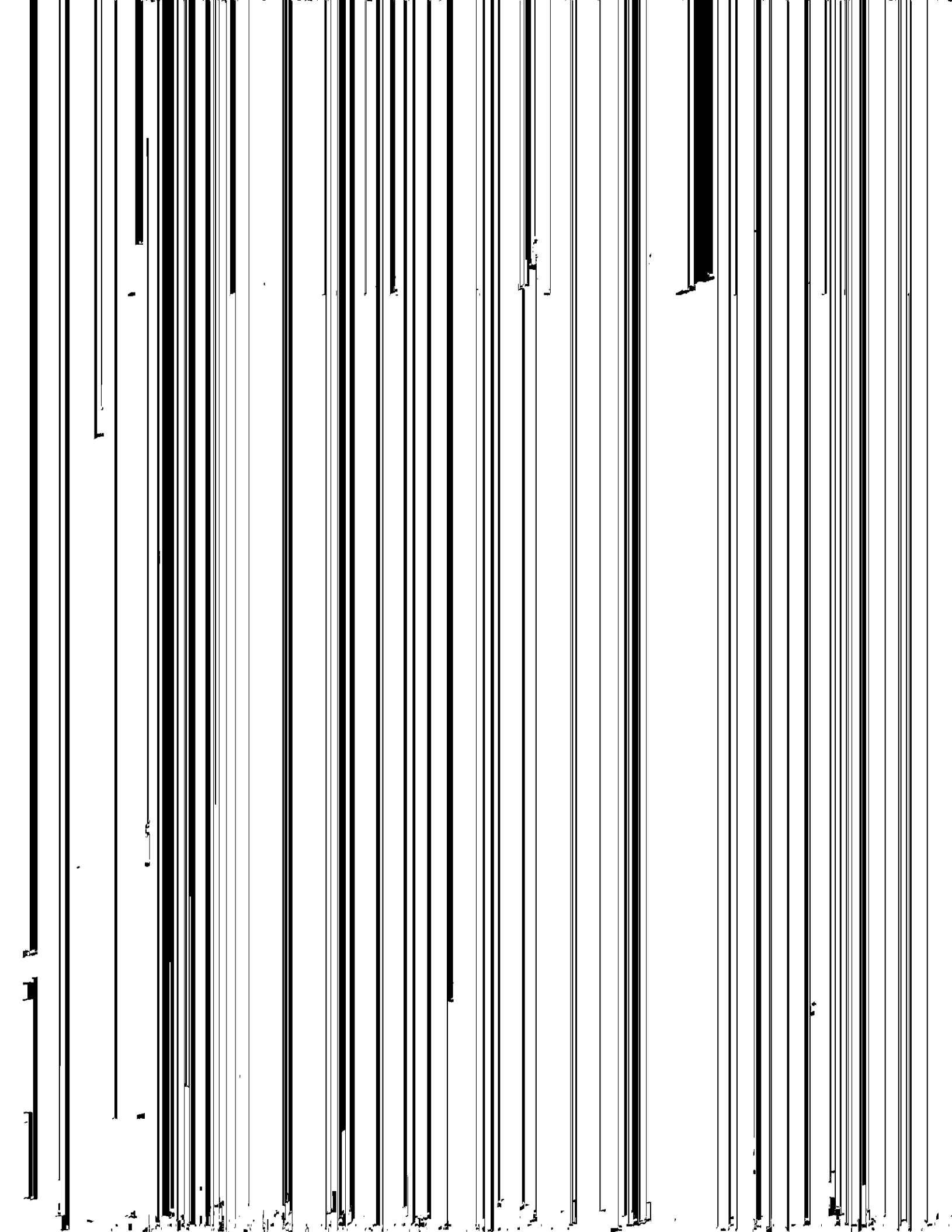


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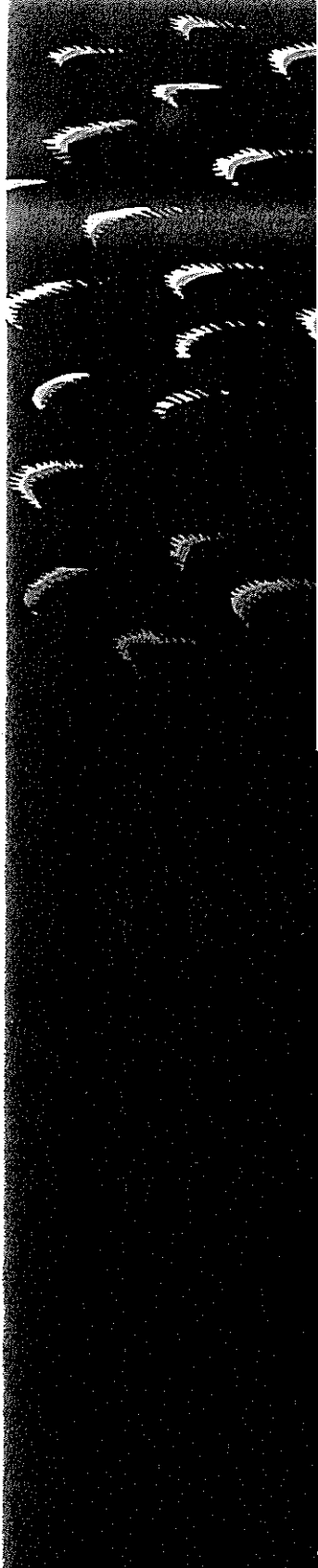
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