



Natural History Pictures
for a Living Education
Birds of the Air



NATURAL HISTORY PICTURES FOR A LIVING EDUCATION

BIRDS OF THE AIR



CHARLOTTE MASON BEEHIVE
MELTON MOWBRAY

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**Natural History Pictures for a Living Education:
Birds of the Air**

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Charlotte Mason Beehive

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INTRODUCTION



Natural History Pictures for a Living Education is a unique picture book series especially created to accompany students and young people studying natural history through living books. Designed to bring to life the wonder and beauty of the outside world, each volume, being intrinsically related to a particular lesson book, consists of detailed pictures and photographs of the subject matter being read about and discussed. No longer will parents and teachers need to seek out photographs in advance of a lesson or lose time in trying to locate one during the short lesson at their disposal; no longer will students struggle to identify a specimen due to a lack of exposure to an actual pictorial representation of the plant or beast being studied.

In this volume of the series, *Natural History Pictures for a Living Education: Birds of Air*, the content is dependant upon the natural history reader of the same name, written by Ms. Arabella Buckley, and assigned to Form I students learning within the boundaries of a Charlotte Mason education. Featuring over two hundred high definition photographs, all subject matter covered in the natural history reader is visually represented and clearly labelled in the following pages of this book. Let the words you read come alive and be amazed by the immense depth and breadth of God's creation, as your eyes examine the diversity of birds' nests and eggs; the amazing birth of a wood pigeon chick; the sharp talons of an owl; and the variety of plumage in birds of all shapes and sizes.

The pictures in this book are not meant to replace the child's exposure to real life specimens, but dealt with correctly should enhance the students' knowledge and understanding when out and about in the natural world. Their eyes shall be opened more widely; their attention to detail refined; their zest to seek out the objects of their education will be more pronounced. Nothing can be more important to the young naturalist than the knowledge he gains for himself whilst making decided observations in the field, but to ensure a full-bodied representation of the subjects in focus whilst reading from his lesson books, *Natural History Pictures for a Living Education* is curated to do just that.

For home educators using Charlotte Mason's method of reading and narration, it is advised that children make use of the book either during the reading as a way to focus their attention and develop accurate representations of the subject matter in their mind's eye; or as an aid to discussion after a reading. After the lesson text has been read the students should put the pictures away whilst they narrate so that their minds can work independently of any external material. For young students who are not reading their lesson books independently yet the book may be viewed by the child while they listen to the reading. If you find the pictures distract rather than enhance their learning, however, then you may wish to put the pictures to one side until the reading has been completed.

We acquire our pictures from both free and paid photography archives, and all have been credited as and when necessary. All labels relate to the picture directly above it unless otherwise stated.

We sincerely hope you have a pleasant and engaging school year using this new resource. For more new and original content from Charlotte Mason Beehive or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us through our website at www.charlottesmasonbeehive.co.uk.

RACHEL E. NORTH

APRIL 2022

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No. 07. **Eurasian Sparrowhawk in flight** [right].

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