

Junior Naturalists

Edited by **Joyce Deutscher**, 7200 6th Ave., Regina

AN ADVENTURE WITH A PINE GROSBEAK

by **Harriet Jowsey**, age 15, Regina

One fine February afternoon my parents went out to birdwatch in the Legislative grounds where they saw many grosbeaks. There was a female Pine Grosbeak under a big evergreen and she was hurt. They thought that a cat had mauled her or that she had flown into a wire.

When we first got her home we put her in a tall box where bit by bit she ate sunflower seeds. Dad held the grosbeak, ran the water and she started to drink. Dad and Harold made a big cage for her in which there were two perches. The first perch was easy to get to but the second one was higher. One time when Dad was getting some water for her she flew out of the door of the cage. We knew she had become stronger for she flew around the room for about five minutes.

We kept the female Pine Grosbeak for two very interesting weeks. When we decided it was time to let her go, we first put her in the garage, so that she could get used to the cold again. My parents took her out in the middle of the day. I am sure I learned more about birds while she was with us for I was able to observe her at close range.

PICTURE MAKING WITH PRESSED LEAVES

by **Agnes J. Dobryden**, Winnipeg

Editor's Note: We are pleased to get the following suggestion from Agnes Dobryden, a member of the Junior Naturalists "alumni" whom many readers will remember as a letter-writer to *The Blue Jay* from a few years ago. Agnes sent us a sample of her handiwork, a very attractive wall-hanging. Her description of how to make the wall-hanging follows:

Leaves should be picked and pressed during the summer and autumn months. (Autumn leaves are especially interesting and colorful.)

The materials required are: Pressed leaves, winged seeds or sprays of seed grasses; rubber cement; a sheet of acetate or clear plastic; coarse woven fabric (the size of the picture); either two pieces of stiff cardboard and adhesive-backed vinyl in dark wood-grained design or one piece of plywood darkened with wood stain and one piece of stiff cardboard.

The picture is assembled as follows:

Cut a piece of plywood or cardboard the size of the picture. This is the outer panel of your picture and will serve as a frame.

The inner panel on which the leaves are positioned is a piece of cardboard measuring approximately three inches smaller in length and width than the wood-grained piece. Cover this inner panel with linen or coarsely woven fabric preferably in light beige to contrast with leaves of darker tones.

Arrange the leaves on the fabric panel securing the leaves with rubber cement. A light coat of spray varnish helps to bring out the color of the leaves.

After the arrangement is completed, the panel with the leaves is protected with a sheet of acetate or clear plastic placed over the leaf panel, overlapped to the back, and secured.

Finally, centre this picture panel to the larger wood panel, securing the two with cement. The picture is now complete.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JUNIOR NATURALIST'S PAGE

Send your illustrations, stories and letters about nature to Mrs. Joyce Deutscher, 7200 6th Ave., Regina. We will be looking forward to hearing from you.



Saskatoon Junior Naturalists' exhibit in Saskatoon Sportsman's Show

Photo, Creative Professional Photographers Ltd.