

## 第 34 回ちびっ子イングリッシュコンテスト英語暗唱部門 課題文

対象：小学 3～6 年生

### Riders of the Wind

Eagles have been called the 'king of birds' because of their majestic appearance and power of flight. They fly easily, using air currents to ride the wind.

Eagles are birds of prey, which means that they hunt other animals for food. One reason they are such good hunters is that they have excellent eyesight. Even when an eagle is so high in the air that it can hardly be seen, it can still see small objects on the ground. When it spots a meal, it swoops down and grabs the animal with its strong claws.

Eagles build huge nests of sticks on rocky cliffs or in the treetops. Their nests are big enough to hold people! Eagles use the same nest year after year, returning to it with the same mate.

When there are eggs to hatch, both the mother and the father eagles take turns sitting on them. Both parents care for the little eagles afterward, taking them mice, fish, rabbits, ducks, snakes, and squirrels to eat. But eagles don't always catch their own food. Sometimes they steal food from another bird by chasing the bird until it gets tired and drops whatever it is carrying.

The most famous kind of eagle is the golden eagle, which earned its name because it has a crown of gold feathers on its head. Kingly indeed! (224 words)

Adapted from *My First Britannica, Birds, Insects, Reptiles, and Aquatic Life*