

KU NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM & BIODIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Be a Bambiraptor

What you need

- Paper (to wrap around your fingers and make feathers)
- Scissors
- Tape
- Small objects (e.g., toy insects and other animals, buttons, beads)

Preparation

Follow the instructions below to make feathered digits to wear on your index fingers.

- 1. Wrap a piece of paper around your index finger to form a tube (it should extend 1 ½ to 2 inches past your fingertip), use tape to hold it together. It should be snug but not tight. Use scissors to cut the paper tube down to size if needed (ask an adult for help).
- 2. Use paper or other lightweight material to make feathers and attach them to the tube.



What to do

- 1. Place small objects around an area at different heights (such as furniture or outside space).
- 2. Wear the feathered digits on your index fingers. Keeping your elbows against your sides, use your middle finger and thumb to collect items. How many you can collect in 30 seconds?

What is happening?

Bambiraptor is a late Cretaceous (about 72 million years ago) theropod dinosaur that had grasping digits; the first known example of grasping digits in dinosaurs. Holding your arms at your sides illustrates the limited range of motion possible for *Bambiraptor's* wing while grasping with its claws. *Bamiraptor feinbergi* was described by David Burnham at the Biodiversity Institute/KU Natural History Museum and others, and a cast is on display at the museum.