

# Bowerbird Basics

## NOVA Activity **Flying Casanovas**

Bowerbirds are the only species of bird that build structures, called *bowers*, to attract their mates. In this activity, you will explore some of the bowers that bowerbirds build.

### Procedure

- ① You will be assigned one of the following record-keeping roles:

*Notetaker:* In the space below, write a description of your assigned bowerbird's bower, as well as any other information about the bird's characteristics or behaviors.

*Sketch Artist:* In the space below, sketch your assigned bowerbird's bower, including as many materials as you can.

- ② When your bowerbird is featured in the program, take notes or make sketches for your assigned role on all bower materials your species uses.
- ③ When the program is finished, compare visual and written records of your assigned bower and reconcile any differences.
- ④ Combine with two other teams to compare and contrast other bowers featured in the program.

Notes or Sketches



### Questions for Combined Teams

*Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.*

- ① What did each species include in its bower?
- ② What are the similarities among bowers? What are the differences?
- ③ Why might account for the items that were chosen?