

<b>CHAPTER 19</b>	<b>Launch Lab: Pick Your Plumage</b>	<b>BLM 19.0.2</b>
<b>HANDOUT</b>		
<b>Purpose:</b> Identify and analyze traits that influence mate selection		

### Materials

- paper silhouette of a greater sage grouse
- paper tail feathers of different lengths
- paper air sacs of different colours
- coloured felt pens
- stapler or clear tape

### Procedure

1. Choose a paper silhouette of a greater sage grouse. Also choose five to ten paper tail feathers and a pair of paper air sacs. Attach the tail feathers and air sacs to the silhouette. Use a felt pen to add markings to the tail feathers.
2. Hold up your model bird so the other students can see it. At the same time, observe your classmates' model birds. Notice the variations among the model birds.
3. Your teacher will announce which greater sage grouse will reproduce and pass on their traits to the next generation.

### Analysis

1. Identify three variations among the tail feathers and air sacs that you observed.
2. a) In step 3, what determined which male birds will reproduce? Which gender—male or female—influenced this more?

b) What will the next generation of male birds look like?

