

*Jeholornis*, an early bird, lived during the early Cretaceous period approximately 120 million years ago. The evolution of *Jeholornis* and other Cretaceous birds is the subject of a new paper published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. (Allison Elaine Johnson)



*Longipteryx*, an early bird, lived during the early Cretaceous period approximately 120 million years ago. Research at the University of Chicago and the Field Museum shows that the birds during the Cretaceous displayed far less diversity than the astounding variety that exists today. (Allison Elaine Johnson)



*Confuciusornis*, an early bird, lived during the early Cretaceous period approximately 120 million years ago. University of Chicago graduate student Jonathan Mitchell has collaborated with Field Museum paleontologist Peter Makovicky on a new study about bird evolution during the Cretaceous. (Allison Elaine Johnson)

