Turkey vultures soar from 8 in the morning until 7 at night. They hold their wings in a V, teetering back and forth as they ride thermals (warm currents of rising air) up high and then drift back down. Their keen eyesight and sense of smell allow them to find their preferred food, carrion. The underside of their wings and tails flash silver as they soar.

Missouri Department of Conservation - mdc.mo.gov/conmag/
2003/12/missouris-vultures/turkey-vulture
Cornell Lab of Ornithology - www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/
Turkey_Vulture/id

North American Distribution
Missouri Distribution
Habitat (home/food/water)
open woodlands, farms, places with grass and trees
Home trees to roost in at night

What Turkey Vultures Eat
preferred food is dead animals, aged a bit, but not too much, up to 50% of their diet are plants, grass, seeds, leaves and fruit, from pumpkin to sycamore, also eat insects

What eats Turkey Vultures
adults have few natural predators, most die from being hit by cars when they are feeding roadkill, eggs and chicks can be eaten by raccoons, foxes, and opossums

Human Connection
Turkey vultures migrate from North America every year. Because of that, they are covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1916

Coloring Guide
- Red: head, inner wing, iridescent feathers
- Black: back, tail feathers
- Brown: body and wings
- Silver: underside of wings and tails

Size
- Length from bill to tail: 62.9 cm (24.7 in)
- Wingspan from tip to tip: 160-183 cm (63-72 in)

Turkeys have few natural predators. Most die from being hit by cars when they are feeding roadkill, eggs and chicks can be eaten by raccoons, foxes and opossums.