



Quarrybrook

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CENTER

Program Title: **Awesome Avians**

Audience: 2nd grade students

Program Theme: Students will learn about the many characteristics of birds, while also getting outside to search for birds and the evidence they leave behind.

Program Goals: Students will learn what makes birds unique and the characteristics they have which help them survive. Students will learn the terminology of the parts of a bird, which helps us better describe their physical features. Then we'll explore the forest in search of birds as well as evidence of birds.

Next Generation/Common Core Connections:

Topic: 2-LS4 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

Dimensions: Scientific Knowledge is Based on Empirical Evidence



Teachers are always welcome to make any classroom-connecting comments that contribute to student understanding.

Program Outline:

Activity 1: WHAT IS A BIRD? (35 min.) – We'll start by listing the characteristics of birds, then comparing them to other animals. Together we'll decide which feature is unique to birds. Then we'll compare wingspan measurements of several familiar birds.

Objectives: Students will define the main characteristics of birds. Students will know that birds are the only animals that have feathers.

Intended Outcome: Students will be able to name at least four characteristics of birds.

Activity 2: I SPY... (25 min.) – Next we'll learn the parts of a bird and their terms, so that we can describe any bird we see. We'll practice this new vocabulary in an I Spy activity, and color and name the bird on our take-home diagram.

Objective: Students will learn the parts of a bird to help better describe its physical features.

Intended Outcome: Students will label the parts of a bird so they can be more descriptive when explaining a bird they may see.

Activity 3: BIRD BINGO HIKE (60 min.) – Now we'll explore the forest, searching for birds or any evidence of birds.

Objective: Students will become more aware of their surroundings and improve their bird-watching skills.

Intended Outcome: Students will have observed birds as well as evidence of birds.

Conclusion/Wrap-up: Students will share what they most enjoyed finding while out on their search hike. If we didn't see many birds, we'll discuss why not (time of day, time of year, volume of group, etc.).

Successful completion of this program will help support your students' proficiency in NGSS

Performance Expectations:

2-LS4-1 Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.