

BIRD SPOTTING

Living with Wildlife, Activity 5

DETAILS



**Outside
or Inside**



**Individual
or Group**



**10+
Minutes**



Logic

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

From walking on the snow in the Arctic, to swimming in the oceans off the coast of South America, even flying over Mount Everest, you can find birds everywhere!

Just in your back yard or out your kitchen window you may see birds that have flown thousands of miles while migrating to a warmer climate or one that hangs out year-round with a nest in the tree down the street. Sometimes, you won't even see the birds but you'll hear them.

In this activity, we are on the lookout for birds to increase our understanding of the diversity of the wildlife around us.

HOW-TO

1. Prepare for adventure (5 minutes)

Discuss and decide with your adults on a safe place for you to explore during this adventure. You could be in a park/greenspace, yard, patio, or set up to look out the window. Will you going as a group, or alone?

Collect your materials.

2. Find a safe location to sit (5 minutes)

Once a safe location has been decided, find your spot and sit quietly.

3. Observe the area around you (10 minutes)

Try using your senses of hearing and sight to observe any birds around you. Tip: look for movement, a moving bird is easier to spot than one that is camouflaged.

Make notes about or draw the shape of the birds that see. Do you see any colors on its head, wings or body that could help you identify it? Is it large or small? Was it sitting on the branch of a tree, on the ground or flying through the air?

After a few minutes move to a new spot or go for a walk. Remember, the slower and quieter you are the more likely you are to see birds.

4. Wrap-up (10-20 minutes)

Head home or back inside and share your thoughts, feelings and observations with your friends, family or adults.

MATERIALS

- Paper
- Pen/Pencil/Marker
- Surface to Write On
- [Optional] Binoculars



FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

- Have you observed these birds before?
- Why do you think the birds were there?
- Using books or the internet, could you identify the birds you saw?
- Do you think that the same birds would be there at a different time of day, or would the type of bird change?

LEARN MORE

Be sure to check out
www.zoo.org/zootoyou
for more activities and fun.

Also, follow us on social media!

#woodlandparkzoo

