



New Mexico 4-H Greentop Project Guide



New Mexico 4-H Is A Program of New Mexico State University's Cooperative Extension Service

400.B-34
(New 2004)

Getting to Know Birds

Do you like birds? Do you enjoy birdwatching? Do you enjoy listening to birds sing? Do you want to know about birds in the wild? This Getting to Know Birds project is for you!

Objective

To educate 4-H members about birds: their characteristics, their differences, their sounds, their environments, identification, behaviors, migration patterns, and populations. Members will also learn the who, what, and why of endangered species. Careers concerned with birds are also examined.

Materials included in this project

- Record book 4H 340
- New Mexico 4-H Greentop 400.B-34 (N-04)

Suggestions for completing the project

- Review the project book, record sheet, and Greentop to become familiar with the project before you begin
- Review needed materials: eyes, ears, recordings of bird songs (from library), notebook, binoculars (helpful but not necessary)
- Choose the areas about birds in which you wish to study
- Keep a log or diary of the activities you participate in which are related to those areas. This will make it easier to complete your record sheet at the end of the 4-H year.
- Complete your record sheet for the project

To complete this project, you can

- Learn about the characteristics of different species of birds
- Learn about common bird diseases
- Learn about migration patterns of birds
- Learn about reproduction of birds
- Learn about the record keeping process of bird watching
- Learn to distinguish bird calls/songs
- Learn about ideal environments for bird watching
- Learn about breeding behaviors of birds
- Learn about endangered birds and issues associated with endangered species
- Learn what career path will allow you to work with birds

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What can be exhibited with the bird project?

- Posters-breeds, photo journal of birds, parts of a bird, bird diseases, migration patterns, Birds of New Mexico (or in my backyard), types/examples of eggs and nests

If you enjoy this project, and want continue to learn about birds, you can try

- Woodworking-build a birdfeeder
- Photography-take beautiful photos of your birds in the wild
- Art-draw pictures or paint about birds
- Citizenship-take a group of younger members birdwatching
- Leadership-give a presentation/demonstration at your club meeting about birds

If you enjoy this project, here are some other great projects you might like

- Getting to Know Birds (outdoor)
- Wildlife
- Veterinary Science

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