



Wildlife on WiFi

Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds
Weekly Lesson Plan





About *Wildlife on WiFi*

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Wildlife on WiFi (“*WoW*”) seeks to connect Pennsylvania residents to their state’s wildlife from anywhere. To achieve this, *WoW* provides innovative online learning opportunities, virtual lessons and educational resources about wildlife and its conservation.

The *Wildlife on WiFi* online education hub features 50 lessons, activities, videos, story time readings, watchable wildlife livestreams, and more!

To connect with *Wildlife on WiFi*

Wildlife on WiFi is available at www.pgc.pa.gov/education/virtualllearning

For questions or to schedule a virtual lesson, please contact wildlifeonwifi@pa.gov.





Wildlife on WiFi Weekly Lesson Plans

About *Wildlife on WiFi* Weekly Lesson Plans

Wildlife on WiFi weekly lesson plans provide day-by-day activities to keep children learning, thinking, and getting outside! Designed for K – 6 grades, these plans can be adapted by educators to suit their needs and grade levels.

Educators and parents may find them ideal to support at home and virtual learning, but they may also be used during regular in-person or hybrid in-person teaching.

Live virtual lessons from a Game Commission educator are a great way to cap off a wildlife week. To inquire about a virtual lesson, please contact wildlifeonwifi@pa.gov.





Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds Weekly Lesson Plan

Overview: They flock, roost, fly, wade, and waddle. They are also some of our favorite members of the Pennsylvania wildlife family. This lesson plan encourages students to get outside and discover nearby nature while reinforcing observational skills, critical thinking, and core conservation, environment, and science concepts. Activities generally suitable for K – 6 with teacher adaptations based on age and teaching objectives.

Day	Recommended Activities
Monday	Backyard Nature Journal, Bird Feeder Bingo, and Bald Eagle Video
Tuesday	Let's Wing It! Activity and Heron Rookery Survey Video
Wednesday	How to Build Your Own Birdhouse At Home and Bird Box Pointers Video
Thursday	Bird Beak Bites, Wildlife Coloring Book, and Turkey Tidbits Video
Friday	Share Day and <i>Wildlife on WiFi</i> Virtual Lesson!



Day 1: Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds

Day 1 Activities

Assign the *Wildlife on WiFi* [Backyard Nature Journal](#) to students and encourage them to spend 30 minutes outside each day during the week journaling about what wildlife and plants they see. At the end of the week, have each student share/present to the class. Students may also enjoy playing [Bird Feeder Bingo](#).

Older students can check out [Bald Eagle: Celebrating 30 Years of Restoration](#) for one of PA's best conservation stories!

Based on grade level, teachers may ask students to document behavior in addition to general descriptions. Key questions for observation:

- Do they notice any interesting animal behaviors? Are they feeding, nesting, alerting for danger?
- How do animals feed? What are they eating? What time of day are they feeding?
- What features (e.g., ears, eyes, claws, tails) do animals have that make them good at living in their habitat?

Access activities by clicking the links in blue above.

BIRD FEEDER BINGO!				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Eastern Bluebird	Mourning Dove	Downy Woodpecker	Black-capped Chickadee
American Robin	Northern Cardinal	Blue Jay	Dark-eyed Junco	Red-winged Blackbird
European Starling	Tufted Titmouse		White-breasted Nuthatch	House Finch
Song Sparrow	Carolina Wren	Baltimore Oriole	Gray Catbird	Hairy Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Pine Siskin	House Sparrow	Northern Flicker	White-throated Sparrow



Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Rose-breasted grosbeaks are frequent visitors to backyard bird feeders! They love to eat fruit, insects, and seeds. Rose-breasted grosbeaks are medium-sized songbirds (about the size of a robin) known for their black triangular beaks. Males (shown in the picture) are black and white with a bright red chest.



Eastern Bluebird
Eastern bluebirds are commonly seen along open fields in Pennsylvania. These cavity nesters love to eat berries and insects. Males are bright blue with a rusty red chest.
Learn how to make a bluebird nest box: www.pgc.pa.gov



Mourning Dove
Mourning doves are medium-sized birds that are light brown or tan in color. Their wings are covered in black spots and their tail is long. If you look close enough their eye is surrounded by a light blue circle!
Mourning doves are often seen eating seeds that have fallen to the ground from hanging bird feeders.



Day 2: Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds

Day 2 Activities

Students should spend 30 minutes outside working on their [Backyard Nature Journal](#) and [Bird Feeder Bingo](#) cards. For younger students, the [Let's Wing It!](#) Identification activity is a good place to start. Be sure to check out the [Let's Wing It! Teacher's Guide](#) first. Older students can watch a Game Commission biologist host [Herons 101](#) to see wildlife and conservation management in action.

Access activities by clicking the links in blue above.





Day 3: Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds

Day 3 Activities

Students should spend 30 minutes outside working on their [Backyard Nature Journal](#) and [Bird Feeder Bingo](#) cards. They can also learn how to [Build Their Own Nest](#) --- and [tin can feeder](#). Students can also watch a [video to learn some bird box pointers](#). Parents may need to help assemble the household items needed to build a birdhouse at home.

Younger students may also enjoy a [Wildlife Story Time Reading of The Best Nest](#).

Access activities by clicking the links in blue above.





Day 4: Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds

Day 4 Activities

Students should spend 30 minutes outside working on their [Backyard Nature Journal](#) and [Bird Feeder Bingo](#) cards. They can also check out a few activities, including [Bird Beak Bites](#) and the [Wildlife Coloring Book](#).

Younger students may enjoy the [Turkey Tidbits video](#) while older students can tune in for [From the Field: American Kestrels and Barn Owls](#) for an inside look at conservation science in action.

Access activities by clicking the links in blue above.

Bird Beaks & Bills

- Beak and bill mean the same thing
- A bird's beak/bill is used for things such as building a nest, feeding their young, gathering nesting materials, building nests, preening their feathers, and eating
- The shape and size of each bird's beak/bill is specific for the type of food they gather.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Photo courtesy of Jason Wright



Day 5: Celebrate Pennsylvania Birds

Day 5 Activities

It is share day! Ask students to present observations from their [Backyard Nature Journal](#) and how many birds they identified on their [Bird Feeder Bingo](#) cards in class.

To cap off the week, consider a virtual lesson from a Game Commission educator. To inquire, please contact wildlifeonwifi@pa.gov.

Access activities by clicking the links in blue above.





Thank You!

Questions or Comments?

Let us know at wildlifeonwifi@pa.gov.