

Wisconsin Birds Lesson Plan

Grades: 8 - 12

Length of Program: 45 minutes - 1 hour

Time of Year: Spring, summer, fall

Preferred Adult/ Student Ratio: 1/10

Summary:

Students will learn about the birds of Horicon Marsh; including their identification, habits and habitat requirements. We will seek out the birds of the marsh and woodlands in order to understand their lives and relationship to the land.

Teacher Preparation:

Give students a basic introduction to birds and bird identification

Academic Standards Addressed:

Environmental Education

B1.8.3 Explain the importance of biodiversity

B1.12.7 Evaluate the importance of biodiversity

Special Instructions:

Please make sure students are dressed appropriately for the outdoors.

Materials:

- Binoculars
- Field Guides
- Horicon Marsh Bird Checklist

Procedure:

Through an interpretive talk, give an overview of Wisconsin birds, and specifically birds of Horicon Marsh, focusing on basic identification skills and tips, diversity, and seasonal distribution.

During an outdoor hike, assist the students in developing their identification skills, teaching them how to distinguish species based on field marks, calls, behavior, and habitat association.

Wrap-up:

Discuss the rich diversity of birdlife and bird watching opportunities throughout Wisconsin. Emphasize the importance of biodiversity and avian presence in assessing environmental quality.