

Activity #15: *The Tale of Chipilo*

Indoor Team Bird Watching

Materials Needed:

- Large index cards, each with a different number printed on the front - 6 per team
- Pictures of birds of North America 20 to 30 – 6 per team
- Color-coding label dots
- Markers
- Symbols representing threats to endangered species from the pictures page (included) – one page per team
- Cardboard part of toilet paper roll – 2 per team
- Tape
- String
- North American bird field guides (from library or used book store) – at least 1 per team
- Data page – 1 per team (included)
- Graph paper
- Real binoculars (optional)
- At least one reference book on endangered bird species or animals
- Be sure and include pictures of endangered species – at least one per group

Background Activity:

Show “What is a Bird?” powerpoint presentation with the class.

Activity:

Part One or Day One

- 1) Divide students into teams of 3 to 4 students
- 2) Provide materials to each team (listed above)
- 3) Each team should make 6 cards with bird pictures and symbols. No team should have the same pictures as another team.

front side of card:

- Picture of a bird of North America
- A red or pink dot if the bird is an endangered species
- A blue dot if species is a Neotropical migratory bird (see “Bird Migration” powerpoint)
- A green dot if the bird is a year round resident of the state

- A symbol that tells why the bird is endangered or why its numbers may be declining (threatened or species of concern may be included)

back side of card:

- Common and scientific name of bird
- List what the symbols and dots (if any) mean

4) (optional) Each group may make one or more binoculars (see Activity #10 Be a Wildlife Biologist!).

5) When the picture cards are finished, each group places the cards around the room – on the walls, bulletin boards, desk, lab tops or other easily seen locations.

6) The teacher sets the time limit for bird identification.

7) The teams then go around the room looking at each card and try to identify the bird using the field guide(s) they have. The name of the bird and the information from the symbols should be recorded on the **Data Page** for students. Students should not turn cards over. (After activity is over teams may go back and correct their data pages).

8) The teacher calls time (suggested time 30 to 40 minutes) and students turn in data pages – the team with the most correctly named birds wins.

Alignment:

Grade 3 (red)

Grade 4 (blue)

Grade 5 (green)

Grade 6 (purple)

English Language Arts & Reading student expectations: 26(A); 24(A); 24(A,B); 23(A,B)

Mathematics student expectations: N/A

Science student expectations: 9(A-C); 9(A,B); 9(A-D); 12(E,F)

Social studies student expectations: 4(D), 17(B,E), 18(A); 7(B,C), 9(C), 21(A-C), 22(A,C,D); 7(B), 9(B), 24(A-C), 25(A,C,D); 3(A,B), 6(A), 21(A-C), 22(A,C,D)

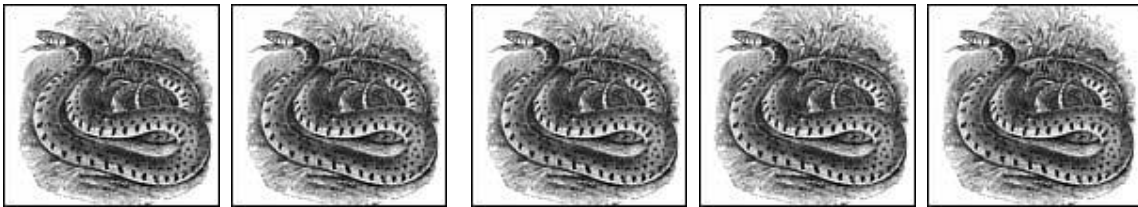
Symbols for Endangered Species Threats

(Cut out and put on front of card of Endangered, Threatened or Species of Concern)

Loss of Nesting Sites or Nesting Materials



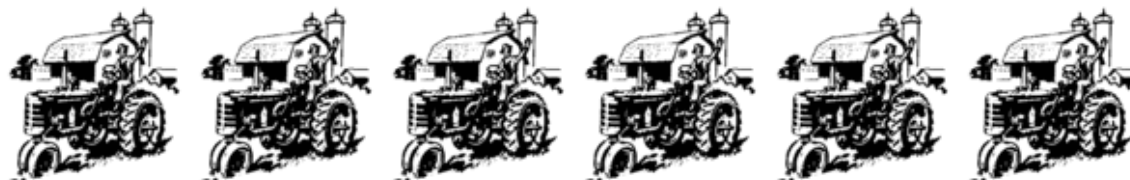
Threat from Nest Predators or Hunting



Threat from Pollution or Industry



Loss of Habitat from Agriculture or Development



Assessment for Indoor Bird Watching Activity

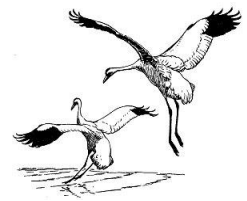
1) Which of the following best describes an endangered species?

- a. a widespread species
- b. a species that eats a wide variety of foods
- c. a species that can live in many different habitats
- d. a species declining in number due to habitat loss

2) Which picture best illustrates a cause of habitat loss?



3) Which is an endangered bird species?



a. Great Horned Owl b. Red-winged Blackbird c. American Robin d. Whooping Crane

4) Which best describes a neotropical migratory songbird?

- a. a bird that breeds in North America and winters in Central or South America
- b. a bird that migrates within North America
- c. a bird that is a year round resident
- d. a bird that migrates up and down a mountainside

5. Which bird is a resident of Texas and the state bird of Texas?



a Penguin



b Flamingo



c Parrot



c Northern Mockingbird

6) **Matching:** Bird Identification

a. Turkey Vulture

b. Killdeer

c. Great Blue Heron

d. Barn Swallow

e. American Goldfinch

f. Northern Cardinal

g. Blue Jay

h. Red-headed Woodpecker

i. Bald Eagle



Answer Key Activity #15: *The Tale of Chipilo*–Assessment for Indoor Bird Watching

- 1) d
- 2) c
- 3) d
- 4) a
- 5) c
- 6) f g d
 a c b
 i e h