

Name: Nancy Parra

School: Lowell Elementary

Grade levels: 4-6

Title: Become an Expert

Brief Description:

Students will become familiar with one species of plant or bird, significantly contributing to the bird study. Each student will be responsible for a separate species.

Ecology Explorer Protocol: Birds and Vegetation

Materials:

- Birding books
- Vegetation identification books/guides
- 9x12 construction paper
- crayons, markers
- library books
- worksheet
- species list (by common name)

Procedure:

Students will be assigned a separate bird or plant species to research. Each student will be required to find all the items listed on the appropriate worksheet. The student will then make a mini-poster and give a presentation about their subject.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on the finished mini-poster and their presentation to the class.

Science Standards

4SC-E1. Construct classification systems based on the structure of organisms

4SC-E7. Explain and model the interaction and interdependence of living and non-living components within ecosystems, including the adaptation of plants and animals to their environment

Writing Standards

W-E8. Demonstrate research skills using reference materials such a dictionary, encyclopedia, and thesaurus, to complete effectively a variety of writing tasks.

LS-E2 Prepare and deliver an oral report in a content area and effectively convey the information through verbal and non-verbal communications with a specific audience.

Name: _____

Name of bird: _____ (common name)

Scientific Name: _____

Size: _____ (weight) _____ (length)

Color(s): _____

Characteristics: (beak, shape, patterns, etc.) _____

Habitat: _____

Diet: _____

Drawing of bird, or a photo:

Name: _____

Name of plant: _____ (common name)

Scientific Name: _____

Tree, shrub, plant, grass? _____

Describe the leaves (edge, venation, leaflets, etc.): _____

Describe the flowers (color, size): _____

Is it native to Arizona? _____

Drawing of plant or a photo:

List of Birds

House Wren
House Finch
Rock Dove (Pigeon)
Verdin
Great-Tailed Grackle
Anna's Hummingbird
White-winged Dove
Mourning Dove
Inca Dove
Cactus Wren
Curved-bill Thrasher
European Starling
Northern Mockingbird

List of Vegetation

Trees:

Aleppo Pine
Date Palm
Olive Tree
Ash Tree
Southern Live Oak
Palo Verde

Shrubs:

Texas Sage
Oleander
Rose bushes

* This list is for Lowell Elementary, according to campus location.