

Genetic Variations Birdhouse Project

Your Task: Research a bird found in Illinois. Then, build a birdhouse that matches the variations of that particular bird.

Group Members

Leader:

Materials collector:

Time manager:

Part 1: Bird Research

Look on these websites to find a bird that is found in Illinois. Then, conduct further research on your bird and answer the questions in the table below.

<http://www.illinoisbirds.org/the-birds-of-illinois/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_birds_of_Illinois

<http://www.illinoisraptorcenter.org/backyard.html>

Research Questions

Name of my bird	
3-4 traits of my bird (things I can see)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••

What my bird eats.	
What habitat my bird lives in.	
Does my bird hunt? If so, how?	
Does my bird have any special behaviors? What are they?	
3-5 other facts about my bird	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • •

Part 2: Birdhouse Feeder Research

Use the following websites to learn about important features of a birdhouse. Then, answer the research questions below.

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/how-to-choose-the-right-kind-of-bird-feeder/>

<http://feederwatch.org/learn/feeding-birds/>

http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/resources/tips/feeding_birds.html

<p>What are some important features of bird feeders?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••
<p>What are some different types of bird feeders? Explain 2 types.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
<p>What are some of the different types of food you can put in a bird feeder?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••
<p>What else besides food might you have in your feeder?</p>	
<p>What are the best locations in your backyard/porch to put your bird feeder? Why?</p>	

Part 3: Making Decisions and Drawing a Blueprint

Discuss with your group the following questions and write down what you discussed.

What food should you put in your birdhouse feeder? Why?	
Where should you put your feeder? Why?	
What is the best shape of your feeder? Why?	
Any other thoughts about the feeder?	

Draw a blueprint of your birdhouse. The blueprint can be done on paper or the iPad.

Part 4: Building the Birdhouse Feeder

You will be given the following materials to complete your birdhouse.

Cardboard	Scissors
Masking tape	Stapler
Glue	Cardstock

Part 5: Blueprint Analysis

After building your feeder based off your blueprint, answer the following questions.

<p>What are some strengths of your blueprint (design)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••
<p>What are some weaknesses of your blueprint (design)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••
<p>If you could change the design, what you would change?</p>	
<p>What was the easiest part about completing the blueprint?</p>	
<p>What was the most difficult part about completing the blueprint?</p>	

Part 6: Comparative Analysis

<p>Look at other group's birdhouses. How did they use their materials differently than you?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
<p>Look at other group's birdhouses. How did they use their materials in the same way as you?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
<p>Do you think your feeder will attract your bird? Why or why not?</p>	
<p>Find a group that had a similar bird to yours. What features of their feeder would you include in your next design? Why?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••