



2017 Youth Bird Drawing Contest Lesson Plans

To go with your [Lesson Plans for grades 1-8 based on the Common Core Standards](#)

Subject areas: Science, Math, Art, Reading, and Language Arts

Overview: Students will learn about 3 neighborhood birds found in Washington (the American Robin, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, and/or the Spotted Towhee. They will make observations of these neighborhood birds and become aware of their habitats. Each student will draw one of these birds in their natural habitat using any of the following art supplies: pencils, paints, crayons, pens, markers, pastels, watercolors or other tools that work on paper.

Goals:

1. Students will make observations of birds to compare the diversity of life in different habitats. Use books as well as nature observations to explore birds in their backyard habitats.
2. Students will look and talk about birds. Examine the features of birds, for example, look at the coloring around the bird's eyes. What is the coloring and texture of the wings? What shapes can be used as the bird's body is drawn?
3. Students will use ideas, skills, foundations and techniques to create your work of art.
4. Students will create a piece of artwork through exploration and problem solving.
5. Students will present their work of art to the community by submitting your visual arts project to the Tahoma Audubon by April 30, 2017 with the submission form.

Possible things to discuss:

1. Characteristics of birds
2. Bird Adaptations such as size, coloration, bill shape, feet shape
3. Define habitat focusing on food, water, shelter and space or territory
4. Drawing birds using Basic Shapes and how they can be applied to the parts of the bird's body.
5. Bird vocabulary

Resources:

- Audubon.org/field guides
- Nationalgeographic.com
- Our Pacific Northwest Birds & Habitat by Craig and Joy Johnson
- The Laws Guide to Drawing Birds Written and Illustrated by John Muir Laws
- The Laws Guide to Nature Drawing and Journaling by John Muir Laws
- The Girl Who Loved to Draw Birds by Mimmi Beck (children's book)

Learn more about the 2017 Youth Bird Drawing Contest at www.tahomaudubon.org/contest. The contest is a partnership between Tahoma Audubon Society and the Tacoma Nature Center.

