

BIRDING CHALLENGE CLASSROOM TASKS

Complete at least one activity in each category to enter your class into a raffle.

| | SPOT! Find the birds | LEARN! Build your skills | SUPPORT! Help the birds | ENJOY! Birding for well-being | GET TOGETHER! Birding with others | HAVE FUN! Special birding experiences |
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| A | Ohio is a wonderful place to bird! Find 10 species of birds that can commonly be found in Ohio. Use the list in the Birding Challenge Guide as a reference. | Borrow the free Birds Education Kit from Five Rivers MetroParks. Practice using the binoculars and field guides with your students. Both are included in the kit. | Update the habitat around your school. Use the “Backyard Makeover” activity in the Birding Challenge Guide as a reference or plan to create a Green Schoolyard . | Lead your class in one of the “Birding for Wellness” activities listed in our Birding Challenge Guide. | Host a birdwatching party in your classroom. Play bird games, make bird-themed crafts and eat bird-themed food. Use the activities in our Birding Challenge Guide as inspiration! | Plan a self-guided field trip to one of Five Rivers MetroParks. Explore a variety of habitats while looking for birds. Self-guided field trip materials include information about birding in MetroParks. Visit this link to learn more. |
| B | Spring and fall are abundant with warblers in Ohio. Go on an adventure trying to find as many species of warblers as you can. Try to see or hear at least five. Tip: use Ohio Department of Natural Resources’ Warblers of Ohio Field Guide to prepare. | Learn more about birds and birding. Assign a project focused on bird conservation, have students read bird-themed books from your school library, or plan another assignment to teach students about birds. Visit Cornell Lab’s K-12 site for inspiration. | Students can participate in citizen science activities, too. Have your class participate in Ohio Lights Out , NestWatch , Celebrate Urban Birds , or another conservation initiative. Citizen science projects can directly connect students with real-time research projects. | Birds have interesting behaviors. Have students find a bird or a nest and watch it for a few minutes. Consider the following questions: What is the bird eating? What is it looking at? Does it make any noise? Fun observations may include an adult feeding its young or a killdeer faking an injury. | Birding can be a way to foster social and communication skills in students. Pair up students as Birding Buddies to complete assignments or go birding together. | We’ve put together a list of “Five Fun Ways to Learn About Birds” in the Birding Challenge Guide. Choose one of these activities to do with your class. |
| C | Design your own classroom challenge task. Devise ways to help your students find the birds! | Design your own classroom challenge task. Consider ways to teach students about birds or how to grow their birding skills. | Design your own classroom challenge task. What can your students do to help birds? | Design your own classroom challenge task. Use birding to support your students’ physical or mental well-being. | Design your own classroom challenge task. Encourage students to collaborate on bird-themed projects. | Design your own classroom challenge task. Offer a special experience that shows students how much fun birding can be! |

[Click here to link](#) to Five Rivers MetroParks Birding Challenge for Schools Padlet resource page.

Did you design a challenge task you’d like to share? Email an Education Coordinator at FRMP_education@metroparks.org.

