

## Bridge to Birding

# MAPPING BIRDS

Head outside for a morning bird walk. Before you begin birding, take a walk around and draw a map of the area in which you will be bird watching. Include on your map:

roads

sidewalks

buildings

trees

vegetation type

memorable objects (flag pole, horse stable, archery range)

natural objects (large rocks/boulders, open grassy fields, etc.)

And, don't forget the compass rose and the scale

Next, use the binoculars and bird guides to find 10 different bird species. Mark the location of these bird sightings on your map. And, make notes as to where the birds are – in trees, at feeders, on the ground, flying in the air.

What observations can you make about where you are finding the different bird species? Do you always find one species in a tree, while other species prefer the ground?

Do you observe any birds caring for young? If so, follow the bird to find the nest. Mark the location of the nest on your map.

Are any of the bird species feeding? On what are they feeding? Where are they feeding? Mark these locations on your map.

Compare your map to that of other students. What similarities do you see (compass rose, scale, roads, etc). What differences do you see? Did you find the same birds? Did you make the same observations about the birds you both found?



*check-out the Bridge to Birding Kits at [www.nebraskaprojectwild.org](http://www.nebraskaprojectwild.org)*