

Bridge to Birding

FEATHERED FRIENDS FOOD WEB

Head outside for a bird walk. Be sure to bring your binoculars, ID guides, and a pencil & paper to record your findings.

Grab a large sheet of paper (11x17 or large... a poster size works well). Write the names, or draw, 5 bird species you found on the bird walk. Place the names/drawings randomly around the paper. Circle the names/drawings in red.

Next, randomly list the names of one thing each bird would like to eat on the paper... worm, roly-polly bug, caterpillar, thistle seed, sunflower seeds, mouse, frog, etc. Be creative and think about all that a bird would eat during different times of the year. Circle these names/drawings in blue.

Link the names/drawings of each bird to any of the food items it would like to eat. Remember, each bird may have a line to several different food items.

Next, place the name of one predator for each of the original bird species on the page. Circle these in green. Link these predators to the birds they would eat. Again, each predator can be linked to more than one bird and each bird can have more than one predator.

What would happen if one of the original 5 birds were no longer in the ecosystem? How would this effect the bird's food items? How would this effect the predators? How would this effect the other bird species.

What would happen if one of the food items were no longer in the ecosystem? Would this effect just one bird? Would it effect the predator species?



check-out the Bridge to Birding Kits at www.nebraskaprojectwild.org