HELLO!
AGENDA

3:05 p.m.  Inclusive Birding
3:15 p.m.  Ornithology & Sense of Place
3:25 p.m.  Conservation and Justice Fellows
3:35 p.m.  Together for Birds: EE Activity Collection
3:45 p.m.  Poetry Reading
3:50 p.m.  Partner Panel: Spark Birds
4:15 p.m.  Optional Q&A
OUTCOMES

ENGAGE
Learners in inclusive birding experiences.

EXPERIENCE
An elementary environmental education resource, Together for Birds, exploring how it can be used to introduce the concept of habitats through birds.

PRACTICE
Reflection after experiencing the joy, wonder, and connection made possible by birds.
WHO IS A BIRDER?
WHAT IS BIRDING?
Together for Birds

Belonging, Balance, and Fairness
Cultivating a culture that centers care and respect.

Ethical Conservation
Partnerships, community engagement, fellowships, and storytelling.

Birds for All
Environmental education. Inclusive Birding.
BIRDS ARE EVERYWHERE
I believe that many of the answers lie in honoring people, the other beings with whom we share our planet, and the places where we live, work, and play.
“I think about land. But more and more I also think about how other black and brown folks think about land. I wonder how our lives would change for the better if the ties to place weren’t broken by bad memories, misinformation, and ignorance. I think about schoolchildren playing in safe, clean, green spaces where the water and air flow clear and the birdsong sounds sweet. More and more I think of land not just in the remote, desolate wilderness but in inner-city parks and suburban backyards and community gardens. I think of land and all it brings in my life. I think of land and hope that others are thinking about it, too”

– J. Drew Lanham, *The Home Place*, page 183
ABC CONSERVATION & JUSTICE FELLOWS
NOAH GOMES
Conservation & Justice Fellow
Look for local or regional stories, legends, or songs about birds to share with students. For example, the traditional native Hawaiian story of the ʻŌhiʻa Lehua and Poʻopāpale explains the relationship between native honeycreepers and the ʻŌhiʻa tree, a primary food source and habitat for many of them. One place to start is the website Native American Birds of Myth and Legend at native-languages.org/legends-bird.htm
HELLO!

CLAUDIA SANTIAGO
Conservation & Justice Fellow
“By stepping out of the park's boundaries to talk to the community, we were making a difference. We were also deepening our own understanding...”
HELLO!

JACLYN STALLARD
Curriculum Advisor
PLT/SFI
PLT’s Goal:
To advance environmental education, forest literacy, and career pathways using trees and forests as windows on the world.
PLT’S LIFETIME OF LEARNING

PLT EDUCATION
Curriculum resources for educators and community leaders that teach young people how to think about some of our complex challenges and support young people in exploring a green career.

PLT FOREST LITERACY
Knowledge building tools and resources that teach important concepts around forests and sustainability.

PLT CAREER PATHWAYS
Programming to support building career pathways that expose young people to the diversity of careers in the forest and conservation sectors.
AWARD-WINNING EE MATERIALS

2021 Winner of the Platinum MarCom Award for Print Design

2021 Winner of the Smart Book Award from Academics Choice

Winner of Kirkus Reviews’ Best Indie Books of 2021

Platinum winner in the 2021 Hermes Creative Award from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals

2021 Winner of the Smart Book Award from Academics Choice

2021 Winner of the Kirkus Reviews’ Best Indie Books of 2021

Bronze medal winner in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards contest
ACTIVITY COLLECTIONS

2021-2022

2020

TOGETHER FOR BIRDS
A THEME-BASED SERIES FOR EDUCATORS
GRADES K-2 ACTIVITIES

CONNECTING FOR HEALTH AND PLANET
NATURE OF FIRE
TRILLIONS OF TREES
SENSATIONAL TREES
BIODIVERSITY BLITZ
DISCOVER THE URBAN FOREST
Grades K–2 learners explore why birds matter using habitat-based investigations.

Each activity contains age-appropriate adaptations for Grades 3–5. See the VARIATION section in each activity.

Activities can be used as stand-alone lessons, or as a cohesive unit of instruction.
ACTIVITIES INCLUDED

TREES AS HABITATS

OBJECTIVES
- Describe the role of trees in providing shade and shelter for animals and humans.
- Understand the importance of trees in carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation.

BACKGROUND
Trees are essential for life on Earth. They provide oxygen, clean air, and support biodiversity. They also help regulate the climate and prevent soil erosion.

MATERIALS
- Tree leaves, seeds, and twigs
- Microscope
- Digital camera
- Chart paper

GETTING READY
- Collect tree leaves, seeds, and twigs from a variety of trees.
- Prepare a microscope slide for each student.

TEACHING STRATEGIES
- Discuss the importance of trees in the ecosystem.
- Use the microscope to examine the tree leaves and seeds.

BIRDS AND BUGS

OBJECTIVES
- Observe and identify different types of birds and their habitats.
- Understand the role of birds in the ecosystem.

BACKGROUND
Birds are important indicators of the health of an ecosystem. They serve as pollinators, seed dispersers, and predators of insects.

MATERIALS
- Binoculars
- Field guides
- Digital camera
- Chart paper

GETTING READY
- Identify local bird species and their habitats.
- Select a location for bird observation.

TEACHING STRATEGIES
- Use binoculars to observe birds in their natural habitat.
- Record observations in a journal.

NEIGHBORHOOD NATURALIST

OBJECTIVES
- Observe and identify different species of plants and animals in the neighborhood.
- Understand the importance of biodiversity.

BACKGROUND
Biodiversity is crucial for the health of ecosystems. It ensures the survival of species and supports human well-being.

MATERIALS
- Field guides
- Digital camera
- Chart paper

GETTING READY
- Identify local plant and animal species.
- Plan a route for observation.

TEACHING STRATEGIES
- Use field guides to identify plant and animal species.
- Record observations in a journal.

FOREST FACT
- The Amazon rainforest is the largest forest in the world and it covers an area of 5.5 million square kilometers.
- It contains more than 400,000 plant species, 16,000 bird species, 3,000 reptile species, and 2.5 million species of insects.

GETTING READY
- Plan a trip to a local forest.
- Pack a backpack with snacks, water, and a first aid kit.

TEACHING STRATEGIES
- Use the forest as a living classroom.
- Record observations in a journal.

SAFETY CHECK
- Check for any potential hazards before entering the forest.
- Bring a first aid kit and know how to use it.

TOGETHER FOR BIRDS
- Celebrate the importance of birds and their role in maintaining a healthy environment.
- Promote conservation actions and encourage others to join.

RESOURCES
- American Bird Conservancy
- National Audubon Society
- NatureServe
USING SCIENCE TO TEACH THE ARTS: POETIC REFLECTION

• Poetry is a great way for students to express ideas about the environment, nature, and science.
• Offering specific poetic forms helps students to structure abstract ideas.
• Let’s sample some poetic forms that invite us to think creatively, embrace reflection, and expand horizons.

plt.org/journeys

All book sale revenue supports ABC’s Conservation and Justice Fellowship Program
HELLO!

SIDNEY WADE
Poet & Professor
DISCOVERING BIRDS

Northern Parula
Setophaga americana
ORDER: Passeriformes
FAMILY: Parulidae

Warblers
Habitat: Forests
Food: Insects
Nesting: Tree
Behavior: Foliage Gleaner

Conservation: Low Concern
PHILOSOPHICAL REFLECTION

• Luck
• Presence in the moment
• Free and open to all
"The supreme heir to Wallace Stevens and one of the most original poets in the language.”

Bird Book
{poems}

Sidney Wade
POETRY READING: LOON

LOON*
Sidney Wade
*Reprinted with permission from Dawn Songs, p. 51

Designed in cold
beautiful lines.
black head, fire-red eyes
that defy the darkness
of the water in which it thrives.

In pure lines it dives
for lively prey, lightning
in black, as it sweeps
its waterways with sharp eyes.
At home in deep cold water,
at home in the dome of the sky,

from summer to winter,
its unearthly cries haunt our sleep.
They bring splinters of wildness
to our nights as we navigate
through dreams and the streaming
wakes of the trails we earthlings make.

• Perfect rhyme
• Slant rhyme
• Alliteration
• Assonance
PARTNER PANEL: BIRD REFLECTIONS

Mike Parr  
President, American Bird Conservancy

Kathy Abusow  
President & CEO, Sustainable Forestry Initiative

Judy Braus  
Executive Director, NAAEE
QUESTION 1

Share a personal or professional “bird story” that is unique to you.

Mike Parr
President, American Bird Conservancy

Kathy Abusow
President & CEO, Sustainable Forestry Initiative
QUESTION 2

Why is our topic, BIRDS FOR ALL, important considering the work you and your organization do?

Mike Parr
President, American Bird Conservancy

Kathy Abusow
President & CEO, Sustainable Forestry Initiative
52ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 17-20

20TH ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
OCTOBER 12

TOGETHER WE THRIVE
QUESTIONS?
THANK YOU