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Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service
4-H Club Bulletin
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PROJECT III

BIRDS

EXPLORING

AVIAN PROBLEMS

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension Service  4-H–Youth Programs
PROJECT III
EXPLORING AVIAN PROBLEMS

A third year club member should have gained enough knowledge of birds that he can start to draw conclusions as to the relationships of birds to their environment. Basic ideas should lead the member into projects of individual studies. These projects could concern bird ecology (relationships of plants and animals to each other) behavioral studies, territoriality of birds, and many other interesting aspects of bird life. These activities can be carried out in addition to the third year work sheets.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Basic Requirements:

1. Select a problem for exploration - identify your method of approach, record your data, and make a report of your findings; (For example, Explore the Problem of DDT);
2. Learn about "game birds" and their value to recreation;
3. Develop knowledgeable understanding of the "harvest concept;"
4. Complete 25 bird study work sheets for species representing 10 or more avian groups;
5. Member evaluation with leader.

Electives:

1. Make an inventory of the "game birds" in your community;
2. Plant food and cover for birds and other wildlife. Make a map, drawing, or exhibit of your "bird habitat improvement area."
3. Develop an educational (individual or club) exhibit on "bird ecology," "avian problems," or "habitat improvement."

Your Conservation Leader can help with needed reference materials. For further assistance ask your leader or club representative to contact your Extension 4-H - Youth Agent ......or write to Extension Conservation Education, Project Leader, 9B Natural Resources Bldg., M.S.U., East Lansing 48823.
WORK SHEET - BIRDS III

Common Name: ________________________________
Avian Group: ________________________________

Coloration: Spring and Fall
Male: ________________________________
Female: ________________________________
Immature: ________________________________

Relationship to Man:
Beneficial: ________________________________
Detrimental: ________________________________

Relationships with plant and other animal forms:
Economics: Management: ________________________________

Behavioral Characteristics: social, solitary nesters, gregarious migrants, etc.
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