

CRAZY ABOUT BIRDS!

The High-Flying Guide to Citizen Science Projects for Kids Who Love Birds



HAVE YOU HEARD OF CITIZEN SCIENTISTS?

Citizen science, also called community science, happens when people study the world around them and send the data they collect to scientists.

Citizen scientists are people—young or old, who have attended a lot of school or very little, from cities and from small towns—who help collect data for research projects and help to answer real scientific questions.

To help with **at-home and blended learning** this year, we've compiled the ultimate list of citizen science projects related to **birds** that are great for at-home learning. Wherever you live you can be a bird steward!



CELEBRATE URBAN BIRDS

Timing: Any time of year

You don't need to book a trip to Costa Rica or the Amazon to enjoy great birding!

There is a surprising abundance of birds living right in every city. **Celebrate Urban Birds (CUBs)**, a project run by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, studies the birds that live in cities and surrounding areas and connects people who live in those areas to science and nature. You can help collect data that will help scientists find patterns to better understand what size and quality of green spaces are needed to better support birds in urban locations.

<https://celebrateurbanbirds.org/>



TRACK HUMMINGBIRD MIGRATION

Timing: August to November, every year

Track hummingbirds as they travel to their wintering grounds.

Join **Journey North** and citizen scientists across North America who are observing seasonal changes and reporting hummingbird sightings. Put up your feeders, watch for these fairy-like birds, and report your sightings. Journey North observations have already revealed changes in the patterns of hummingbird migration—information that could be key in making sure that important stopover habitat is conserved for these surprisingly tough long-distance migrants.

<https://journeynorth.org/sightings/>



PROJECT FEEDER WATCH

Timing: November to April, every year

Project Feeder Watch, sponsored by Cornell University, is a great way to help birds, and everyone is welcome to participate. The project always starts on the second Saturday of November and this winter-long survey of birds runs for twenty-one weeks.

You identify and count birds coming to your feeder and transmit your data online—it becomes part of a huge database that helps scientists and conservationists who work to protect birds.

<https://feederwatch.org/>

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GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Timing: February 12–15, 2021

A joint project of the National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the **Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)** invites everyone to join and submit the birds they've spotted.

It's one of the largest citizen science projects in the United States—and is spreading around the world! Participation takes only fifteen minutes of observation in your backyard or favorite birding spot.

<https://gbbc.birdcount.org/>

